

Fighting bull. (Steve Hindi/SHARK)

Spanish national broadcasting agency banishes bullfights to protect children

MADRID—The Spanish national broadcasting agency, Corporación de Radio y Televisión Española (RTVE) on January 8, 2011 made official that it will no longer televise bullfights.

RTVE “has not shown bullfighting in any of its programs for months, citing low audience ratings and budget problems,” wrote

Associated Press correspondent Harold Heckle.

RTVE made the *de facto* exclusion of bullfights from broadcasts official in the 2011 edition of the corporate stylebook. A chapter titled “Violence against animals” says RTVE has ceased broadcasting bullfighting in part because bullfights are usually held at hours

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Oslo Fashion Week bans fur from catwalk

OSLO—Oslo Fashion Week founder Pål Vasbotten on January 8, 2011 confirmed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that the only Norwegian fashion event of global note has banned fur from the catwalks.

Oslo Fashion Week, held twice a year since 2004, will next be celebrated from February 15 through February 21, 2011.

Unconfirmed reports quoting Vasbotten with a variety of different attributions circulated for more than two weeks before the Oslo Fashion Week web site first mentioned the ban by including a third-hand account by Katherine Sweet of the fashion publication *Radar*. Sweet reported that Vasbotten told *The Huffington Post* that banning fur from the catwalk “has been a very natural choice for us because we do not want [Oslo Fashion Week] to appear as an arena in which to promote products based on the treatment of animals [as] prohibited by animal welfare concerns in several countries.”

But the *Huffington Post* item was actually a link to an on-line petition posted on December 14, 2010 by Change.org blogger Annie Hartnett, in response to anonymous and substantially identical news items including the same quote that appeared in European



Young silver foxes on fur farm. (Modeste Herwig/Bont voor Dieren)

animal rights and vegetarian web media beginning about 24 hours earlier.

The widely distributed web report stated that “The change was sparked by anti-fur effort Mote Mot Pels (Fashion Against Fur), which gathered more than 220 of the Norwegian fashion elite together to rally against using animal pelts on the catwalk.”

“Ethical values are a very complex issue in most industries, and also in the industry that we are promoting,” Vasbotten told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “That’s why we started the Nordic Initiative for Clean & Ethical Fashion (NICE) three years ago,” which promotes Norwegian woolen goods, but has not directly addressed fur.

“Most of the issues in the textile fashion industry, aside from those concerning the consumers, need to be addressed outside our country,” Vasbotten continued. In Norway, however, “when it comes to fur, we have a small fur farming industry. They are subsidized by the government to the tune of approximately 50 million kroner every year, and the resulting export-turnover is around 350 million kroner. It is very painful to see those animals in their miniscule cages, locked up for life, sometimes with open wounds. We have seen these pictures for many years and it seems that neither

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care About Animals

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What does the Food Safety Modernization Act mean for farmed animal welfare?

WASHINGTON D.C.—U.S. President Barack Obama on January 4, 2011 signed into law the Food Safety Modernization Act, the most extensive update of U.S. food safety legislation since 1938. The enforcement regulations are due to be completed by 2014.

Though not specifically an animal welfare bill, the Food Safety Modernization Act has huge implications for animal welfare, especially in regard to livestock and poultry disease control.

The Food Safety Modernization Act specifically does not amend or supercede the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Poultry Products Inspection Act, the Egg Products Inspection Act, and the Packers & Stockyards Act. However, the act includes 28 specific mentions of animals. Most of the mentions

stipulate that the provisions of the Food Safety & Modernization Act extend to protecting animal health as well as human health.

Section 208 of the Food Safety Modernization Act directs the chief administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Secretary of Health & Human Services, Secretary of Agriculture, and state, local, and tribal governments to prepare “specific standards and protocols” for “clean-up, clearance, and recovery activities” following outbreaks of “foreign animal diseases.”

This is to include directions for “the disposal of large quantities of animals” who “have been infected or contaminated by...foreign animal diseases.”

Section 208 may improve animal welfare by helping to prevent the spread of debilitating livestock diseases. But pending the issuance of enforcement regulations, Section 208 raises concern about what methods may be recommended for killing animals who may have been exposed to pathogens, and may not be transported for conventional slaughter, lest transport spread the disease that the killing is intended to control.

In 2003, for example, Newcastle disease, a fungal infection deadly to birds, spread from gamecocks to egg farms in San Diego County, California. Acting on the advice of American Veterinary Medical Association animal welfare committee member Gregg Cutler, several egg producers cleared their facilities of potentially infected hens by tossing them alive into a woodchipper.

Mass slaughter to eradicate disease is a strategy used since antiquity, but the numbers of animals killed have soared since 1996, raising awareness worldwide that existing protocols for killing and disposing of the remains of diseased livestock and poultry are inadequate. Livestock and poultry

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A “Summit for Horses” held in Las Vegas during the first week of January 2011 pushed killing wild horses taken off the range by the Bureau of Land Management and exporting the meat. BLM chief Bob Abbey opposed the idea. Coverage is on page 13. (Photo by Kim Bartlett)

Chinese activists object to Canadian deal to sell seal meat & oil to China

BEIJING, HALIFAX—Canadian Fisheries Minister Gail Shea on January 12, 2011 announced to news media by teleconference call from Beijing that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and the Chinese Administration of Quality Supervision have reached an agreement which will allow Canadian sealers to export seal meat and oil to China for human consumption.

Struggling to find new markets since the European Union banned the import of seal products in July 2009, Shea and Newfoundland and Labrador Fisheries Minister Clyde Jackman visited China to finalize the agreement after more than a year of negotiation. Shea “couldn’t put a dollar value on the possible seal meat and oil exports, but said it will be up to the industry to promote a product they have tried for years to introduce to the Asian country,” reported Alison Auld of Canadian Press.

“Initialising this arrangement of course means we now have access, but it will be up to the industry to ensure that we actually start selling some of these products into the marketplace,” Shea acknowledged.

“The population is so high in China

that if everybody buys some pelt or product from seal, we won’t have to trade anymore with Europe,” Magdalen Islands Sealers’ Association president Denis Longuépée speculated to CBC News.

“Yes, Chinese consumers have impressive purchasing power,” responded Beijing Animal Welfare Association director Qin Xiaona. “Yet, I am sure Chinese consumers would reject seal products without a moment’s hesitation if they knew the cruelty behind them.”

Agreed China Small Animal Protection Association founder Lu Di, to Agence France-Presse, “Do not give to others what you yourself do not want” is an ancient Chinese proverb. It is insulting for Canada to market these products in China.”

The directors of 42 Chinese animal advocacy organizations joined Qin Xiaona and Lu Di in signing a joint letter of protest.

“This is a slap on the face for China, Chinese culture and Chinese people,” wrote Grace Ge Gabriel, Asia regional director for International Fund for Animal Welfare, in a separate statement. “China is

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Editorial feature

Empowerment through understanding the phases of a cause

Social Movement Empowerment Project founder Bill Moyer was last mentioned in **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in his obituary, published in our January/February 2003 edition. His insights, however, have helped to inform almost every **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial.

A key strategist for Martin Luther King’s 1966 open housing campaign in Chicago, Moyer after 1972 spent the rest of his life teaching advocacy tactics. At invitation of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** president Kim Bartlett, who was then editor of the long defunct *Animals’ Agenda* magazine, and Friends of Animals president Priscilla Feral, Moyer in September 1989 visited Stamford, Connecticut, to present one of his Movement Action Plan workshops to about 40 leaders of national animal rights groups.

Early in his presentation, based on the histories of other major causes and social movements, Moyer explained that a movement evolves as a variety of different flashpoint events occur that illustrate a failure to uphold an existing and widely recognized social value. The movement develops momentum as the people who respond to the different flashpoint events come together to seek one or more common goals that have some tangible substance—for example, laws that may be passed, projects that may be funded, and personal behavior that may be changed.

As these tangible goals are fulfilled, the underlying social value is strengthened and new norms are established for upholding the value. For example, Thomas Jefferson wrote in the U.S. Declaration of Independence, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal...” Eighty-seven years later Abraham Lincoln echoed Jefferson in the first sentence of the Gettysburg Address, declaring human moral equality to be the bedrock value upon which the U.S. was founded. Yet even a century later, when Moyer developed his theories about movement evolution as a campaign strategist for Martin Luther King, the principle of equality was still often ignored in the routine management of public institutions. The civil rights movement initially desegregated public institutions, then expanded into broader efforts which advanced the greater goal of ending all racial discrimination.

The underlying social value pertaining to animals might be summarized as “be kind to animals,” or “don’t be cruel to animals.” Both of these ideas have been expressed in the teachings of major religions for millennia, and have been recognized to some extent in the secular laws of many nations for 100 to 200 years. The emergence of the humane movement in the 19th century, the animal welfare movement in the mid-20th century, and the animal rights movement in the late 20th century each advanced the values of being kind to animals, or at least not being deliberately cruel toward animals, by giving them increasingly tangible and specific form in legislation, norms of personal conduct, and institutional support, such as the foundation of humane societies and the opening of animal shelters.

Central to Moyer’s Movement Action Plan concept is recognition of the use of what he called the “transformative demand,” which is a sort of gearshift that converts the energy developed around flashpoint events into momentum toward tangible change. Transformative demands in the animal cause—among many others—include “sterilize your pets,” “don’t wear fur,” and “punish egregious cruelty to animals as a felony.”

Transformative demands do not in themselves change the underlying societal value, but as they succeed, they increase the extent of compliance that is expected of every citizen, making the value more meaningful as a social norm. Sometimes the value itself is expanded, as in extending the idea that “all men are created equal” to women.

Not every transformative demand achieves the gear-shifting sought by activists in a single step, or even in a single movement. Often a gearing-down process occurs, enabling the cause to proceed, albeit more slowly than activists wish, when there is not yet enough momentum to move faster. The gearing-down process may be controversial within the cause, since to some activists it may appear to represent retreating from essential goals and accepting—if only temporarily—a new status quo which is still much less than ideal. But the gearing-down does not mean the movement is failing, Moyer pointed out. It may only mean that more people are getting aboard, to be brought up to speed. Once those people are up to speed, change may come faster. Moyer emphasized that different parts of a movement, making and responding to differing transformative demands, may exist simultaneously in different phases, much as a clock simultaneously marks hours, minutes, and seconds.

Each movement and each component sub-movement, if winning public support—progresses through eight cyclical phases that Moyer identified through long observation of the civil rights movement, anti-Vietnam War movement, anti-nuclear movement, and labor movement, among others in which he was personally involved.

Crisis management

Moyer also explained that the cycles of progressive movements mesh opposite to the efforts of the powerholders to stop time or turn the clock backward.

“The powerholders maintain their power and the status quo,” Moyer said, through strategies beginning with “bureaucratic management to prevent the issue from becoming public.” This includes trying to control public access to information, denying that a problem exists, creating “societal myths which define the problem for the public opposite to reality,” and projecting “the threat of demons, such as terrorism, to instill fear,” so that the public will unquestioningly support the status quo.

“After a policy becomes a public issue,” Moyer observed, “the powerholders are forced to switch to crisis management. They explain that their policies are needed to overcome a bigger evil; re-emphasize old demons or create new ones; [and] create trigger events to justify and get public consent” for whatever they are doing. Opposition is at first ignored, then discredited, destabilized, and repressed to whatever extent the powerholders are able to accomplish. Eventually the powerholders begin to make promises of reform, adopt more conciliatory rhetoric, make a public show of conducting studies and engaging in negotiation, and make “minor changes through reforms, compromises, and co-option of opponents.”

This may slow or stop the progress of the movement, or may precede more meaningful change, depending on how the movement responds.

When Moyer addressed the animal rights movement leaders in 1989, the opposition strategies he described were most evident in the efforts of animal researchers, the fur trade, and animal entertainment to keep their practices hidden. Aggressive *agent provocateur* activity against Friends of Animals, funded by U.S. Surgical Corporation, had just been exposed. Even bigger covert operations against PETA and the Performing Animal Welfare Society were underway, funding by Feld Entertainment, the owners of the Ringling Bros. circus, and would be exposed within the next several years. U.S. Surgical and Ringling defended their activities as “counter-terrorism” made necessary by militant animal rights activism.

Of note, however, is that the industry-sponsored infiltration and disruption began when even the actions claimed in the name of the “Animal Liberation Front” were still mostly focused on documenting hidden practices. With just a few well-publicized exceptions, in the 1980s, most of the arsons, bombings, and vandalism subsequently associated with the ALF came *after* the 1992 passage of the Animal Enterprise Protection Act.

Neither the covert actions, on either side, nor the seldom-used law, appear to have had any enduring effect on the progress of the animal cause as a whole. By 1996 farmed animal and food issues had already moved from relative obscurity to the top concern of activists who were then younger than age 40. In 2006 the Animal Enterprise Protection Act was expanded into the present Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act. The chief difference between the Acts, as introduced, was that while the 1992 Act focused on protecting laboratories and fur farms from property damage, the 2006 Act sought to protect labs, fur farms, and factory farms from exposure, after a series of “open rescues” embarrassed agribusiness by exposing routine abuses. AETA was significantly amended shortly before passage by California Senator Diane Feinstein to reduce the risk that it can be applied in response to exposure of conditions, apart from vandalism, but that agribusiness sought such legislation is in itself indicative.

Breaking out of “normal times”

Warned Moyer, “The chief means by which the powerholders maintain unjust policies and keep them hidden from the public is by having a two-track system of official vs. operative doctrines and policies.” A successful movement, Moyer emphasized, “needs to show that social conditions and powerholder policies violate the values, traditions, and self-interests of the public. This includes revealing the difference between official and operative policies and doctrines.” Activists must “keep the issue and moral violations in the public spotlight; keep the powerholders’ policies on society’s political agenda; counter the powerholders’ social myths, justifications, and denials; counter the powerholders’ demonology; and involve increasingly larger portions of the public in programs that challenge the powerholders’ policies and promote alternative visions and programs.”

Moyer described the first phase of a cause as “Normal times,” in which “conditions grossly violate widely held, cherished human values,” but “are maintained by the policies of public and private powerholders, and by a majority of public opinion,” largely by default, since the abuses “are neither in the public spotlight nor on society’s agenda of hotly contested issues.” In normal times, Moyer explained, there may be an institutionalized opposition to the status quo, which tries “to win achievable reforms through mainstream political channels and the courts,” with a hierarchical management structure, professional staff, “and a mass membership that carries out nationally decided programs.” But “These efforts have little success,” in normal times, “because they do not have sufficient public support to provide the political clout required to create change.” Independent from the institutional opposition, principled dissent groups engage in protest, but “are usually small, little noticed, and ineffective.” Even in normal times, Moyer continued, community organizations often “represent the [individual] victims’ perspective and provide direct services to victims,” but this activity tends to keep the participants too busy and depleted to mount a political challenge to the status quo.

Though Moyer wrote with little awareness of humane history, he described quite accurately the structure of the cause as it existed for decades before the rise of the animal rights movement. There were staid, frustrated national organizations used to being on the losing end of political battles; a handful of isolated advocacy groups trying to kindle a more influential cause; and hundreds of local humane societies so overwhelmed with the demands of sheltering three times as many animals as come to shelters now, and so dispirited by having to kill about 90% from lack of adoptive homes, as to be more inclined to hide than to lead.

Such “normal times” are more than a generation behind us now, largely because animal advocates kept revitalizing the cause with what Moyer identified as second phase activity. This consists of documenting grievances, “including the involvement of the powerholders,” Moyer noted, and also documenting the failure of citizens’ attempts “to use the normal channels of public participation” to effect reform.

“Become experts,” Moyer advised, since successful second phase activity requires thoroughly knowing both the issues and the relevant regulatory and political processes.

The third phase of the cause, evolving as expertise is developed and shared, features “a new level of understanding about the seriousness of the problem, the violations of values, how the public is affected, and about the illicit involvement of the powerholders and their institutions,” Moyer outlined. “Growing numbers of discontented people quietly start new autonomous groups, which as a whole form a new wave of grassroots opposition,” independent of the older institutional opposition, who are seen “as working in a dead-end process with the powerholders.”

At this stage, Moyer explained, “Though irritated, the powerholders remain relatively unconcerned, believing that they can continue to contain the opposition through management of mainstream communications. The official policies remain believed and unchallenged” by most of the public, “and the operative policies continue to be hidden.”

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Published by Animal People, Inc.

President & Administrator:

Kim Bartlett – anpeople@whidbey.com

Editor: Merritt Clifton – anmlpepl@whidbey.com

Web producer: Patrice Greanville

Newswire monitor: Cathy Young Czapla

P.O. Box 960

Clinton, WA 98236-0960

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Empowerment through understanding the phases of a cause (from page 3)

In the third phase of a cause, Moyer observed, “public opinion opposing current powerholder policies rises to 30%, even though the issue remains off society’s agenda.”

The fourth phase of a cause, according to Moyer, occurs when “Overnight a previously unrecognized social problem becomes an issue that everyone is talking about. It starts with a highly publicized incident,” such as the release of video from inside a factory farm or slaughterhouse, “that dramatically reveals a critical social problem to the general public in a new and vivid way. Shocked, upset, and angry,” the powerholders “take a hard line in defending their policies and criticizing the new movement.” Yet, “public opinion opposing the status quo rapidly grows from 30% to 50%, as for the first time the public sees the operative policies and hears views countering those of the powerholders.”

Critical in the fourth phase of the cause is to “create a public platform for the movement to educate the populace,” in a manner that “wins the sympathies of the public,” so that the movement leaders “become recognized as the legitimate opposition. Getting the powerholders to change their minds and policies is not a goal of this stage,” Moyer cautioned, since it is necessary to build political support in opposition to the powerholders to win meaningful concessions.

Pitfalls

“Pitfalls of this stage,” said Moyer, are “political naivete; burnout from overwork; not seeing progress as success; unrealistic expectations of immediate victory; and arrogant self-righteousness and radicalism.”

Moyer identified the fifth phase of a cause as an “identity crisis,” when “After a year or two, the high hopes of movement take-off seem inevitably to turn into despair. Activists lose faith that success is just around the corner and come to believe that it is never going to happen. They perceive that the powerholders are too strong, their movement has failed, and their own efforts have been futile.”

Ironically, Moyer observed, this “happens when the movement has just achieved all of the goals of the take-off stage.” Activists perceive that “The movement is dead because it no longer looks like the take-off stage. The image that most people have of successful social movements is that of the take-off stage,” including “giant demonstrations, civil disobedience, media hype, crisis, and constant political theater, but this is always short-lived,” Moyer noted. “Movements that are successful in takeoff soon progress to the much more powerful but more sedate-appearing majority stage.

“Although movements in the majority stage appear to be smaller and less effective, as they move from mass actions to less visible organizing, they undergo enormous growth in size and power,” as manifested by political successes such as the passage of the 2008 California ballot initiative that ordained phasing out battery cages for laying hens, sow gestation stalls, and veal crates.

The sixth phase of a cause tends to bring a leadership transition, from the charismatic confrontational activists who propelled the mobilizing grievance into visibility, to

people with the political skills to hold growing organizations and networks together, form new alliances, keep media favor, and negotiate concessions from the powerholders in a manner which leads toward further gains.

As the cause enters the sixth phase, Moyer explained, it “must consciously undergo a transformation from spontaneous protest, operating in short-term crisis mode, to engaging in a long-term popular struggle.” Opposition to the status quo must expand from the activist nucleus to include actions of the apolitical majority of society, the activity of the older organizations which represented the pre-movement opposition to the status quo, and “mainstream political forces as they are convinced to agree with the movement.”

“The majority stage is a long process of eroding the social, political, and economic supports that enable the powerholders to continue their policies,” Moyer emphasized. “It is a slow process of social transformation that creates a new social and political consensus.”

Increasingly desperate, the powerholders typically “increase their counter-movement strategy to gather intelligence, discredit the movement, cause internal disruption, try to control and steer the movement, try to preempt it by claiming to do the movement’s program, and try to co-opt the movement under mainstream political control,” for example by passing legislation purporting to fulfill movement goals, while leaving loopholes that allow business as usual to continue.

Controlling standards

Agribusiness efforts to preempt action on behalf of farm animals began soon after the Royal SPCA of Great Britain introduced the Freedom Food certification program for producers of farmed animal products in 1994. As no such programs existed yet in the U.S., producers in the U.S. soon recognized the possibility of shielding themselves from the questions raised by animal advocates through initiating and controlling superficially similar certification programs.

By 2005, as Farm Sanctuary detailed in a 104-page *Farm Animal Welfare Standards Report*, and updated in the 72-page 2009 *Truth Behind the Labels* report, 19 agribusiness-directed certification programs purported to reassure consumers about the care of farmed animals.

The American Humane Association certification program, begun in 2000, the Humane Farm Animal Care program, begun in 2003, and the Animal Welfare Institute program, begun in 2006, have had an uphill battle to gain recognition, complicated by AHA concessions to agribusiness.

The November 2010 official debut of the Global Animal Partnership introduced a further complication: a multi-step program, structurally unlike all the rest, with initial funding from Whole Foods Market empire builder John Mackey and a board consisting of Mackey and another Whole Foods colleague, three other industry representatives, and four prominent animal advocates.

What influence GAP may have on consumer behavior and agribusiness is bitterly debated and will take time to know, but just that it exists indicates deep concern within the

food business about public response to ongoing exposure of abuses.

“Splits begin happening within the power structure,” Moyer continued, “as over time pressure from the new social and political consensus causes some of the power-holding elite to switch their position, even openly oppose the policies of the central powerholders, in order to protect their own self-interest.” At this stage, said Moyer, “Public opinion opposing the powerholders’ policies slowly swells to a large majority of up to 85%.”

Yet even then, Moyer cautioned, much of the public may still fear change more strongly than they oppose the status quo.

The seventh phase of the cause is success. This may occur in a manner resembling the fourth phase, when “a trigger event sparks mobilization of broad popular opposition, but this time the overwhelming coercive force in a relatively short time changes policies or leadership,” summarized Moyer.

More often, “Realizing that they can no longer continue their present policies, the powerholders proclaim victory and start changing their policies and conditions to those demanded by the movement and social consensus. The powerholders try to take credit for this, even though they are forced to reverse their policies, while activists often have difficulty seeing their role in this success.”

Success is not the end

Concluded Moyer, “Success is not the end of the struggle, but a basis for creating new beginnings.” In the eighth phase, Moyer said, the cause needs to “celebrate success; follow up to make sure that new promises, laws, and policies are actually carried out; mobilize to achieve additional successes, which are now possible under the new conditions; and resist backlash which might reverse the new gains.”

Failing to transition into eighth phase activism cost animal advocates a signal victory when in 1995 the Canadian government revived the Atlantic Canada offshore seal

hunt, after a 10-year suspension. Campaigns against the Atlantic Canada seal hunt had been waged since 1900, kindling into an international *cause celebre* in 1969. Yet, when the offshore phase of the seal hunt was suspended in 1984, there was almost no follow through. The major international organizations declared victory and abandoned efforts to finish off the land-based seal hunt, which continued without interruption.

Sealers and furriers subsequently won laws and court rulings that enabled the Canadian government to revoke the nonprofit status of animal advocacy groups who campaigned against sealing and the fur trade, then lobbied without influential opposition to revive the seal hunt—and to heavily subsidize it with taxpayers’ money. Revived international activism in 2009—15 years later—brought about a European Union ban on the import of seal products, drastically reducing the number of seals killed in 2010, but the Canadian government is still defending the seal hunt in court and out, still making deals to sell more seal products to Asia, and Canadian animal advocates remain mostly muzzled.

Every issue within the animal cause exists somewhere along the eight-phase continuum that Moyer described, and could be analyzed at length from that perspective.

The no-kill movement in animal sheltering, for example, might be near the eighth phase in many regions, since hardly anyone actually expresses opposition to it, but there is still much need to ensure the continuing success of birth prevention and adoption programs, and to avoid the loss of effective programs due to economic stress. In other parts of the U.S.—and the world—dog and cat welfare remains in “normal times.”

The value of Moyer’s Movement Action Planning approach is that it enables advocates to develop successful approaches for moving ahead by recognizing what to expect next, by recognizing where they are now in the typical evolution of any cause or sub-movement within a cause.

Bill Moyer’s Movement Action Plan: A Strategic Framework Describing The Eight Stages of Successful Social Movements may be downloaded in full from:

<http://www.historyisaweapon.com/defcon1/moyermap.html>
http://www.indybay.org/olduploads/movement_action_plan.pdf

LETTERS

Bushmeat poaching

Merritt Clifton’s article “Looking the wrong way for causes of bushmeat poaching & predator loss,” which appeared in the September 2010 issue of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, was nothing short of brilliant. The scope, coverage and details of the subject were superb. My fervent admiration to you.

—Lionel Friedberg
Woodland Hills, California

Editor’s note:

Born in South Africa, later working from Zambia, Canada, and the U.S., Lionel Friedberg has produced documentaries and television broadcasts, often about animals, for nearly 50 years. He is also author of a history of apartheid and colonialism in Africa.

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Brian May of Queen

Brian May, guitar virtuoso for the famous rock band Queen, whose recent award from the International Fund for Animal Welfare was reported in the October 2010 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, was arguably the most proactive animal person during 2010 in the U.K. This very articulate, compelling and erudite man used his celebrity, money and writing skills to fight to prevent badgers and hedgehogs from being viciously culled. He saved many hedgehogs from death. May is also combating the proposed repeal of the Hunting Act, a goal of the Conservative Party, which heads the coalition now governing the U.K. This would allow the resumption of legally hunting wildlife with dogs. May has also ardently denounced the heinous mistreatment of so-called “food animals.” In 2010 Brian May personified compassion in action.



—Brien Comerford
Glenview, Illinois



Please Help Me Heal My name is Molly.

I’m a 10-week-old American Pit Bull Terrier mix, and I have a very serious condition - juvenile cellulitis. The Animal League has placed me in their Help Me Heal Program to give me the specialized and long-term care I need to get better.

The cause of juvenile cellulitis is unknown, but it affects puppies between 3-24 weeks old. As you can see from my picture, my face, muzzle, lips and eyelids are very swollen and painful and are covered in ulcers. My lymph nodes located near the corner of the jaw are also very swollen, making it hard for me to swallow and eat. I’ve been running a fever, have hardly any appetite and my immune system has become weakened, which is very dangerous.

Juvenile cellulitis is highly contagious so I have to be isolated from other dogs. Even the people in contact with me can spread it to other dogs.

I’ve been on different medications and getting constant care here at the Animal League, but juvenile cellulitis has a pretty slow recovery process. When you have a weakened immune system like I do, even the smallest germ can become a big problem.

Your support of the Help Me Heal Program is the reason I’m here today. Your generosity makes it possible for so many animals – like me – to get the medical attention we need.

To help continue the care for Molly and help other animals in our Help Me Heal Program, visit www.AnimalLeague.org/help-me-heal

“North Shore Animal League
America’s Help Me Heal Program
Cares for Pets in Need!”



AnimalLeague.org

Live frogs & turtles sold to be eaten

In March 2010, to protect California natural resources, the California Fish & Game Commission voted unanimously to direct the Department of Fish & Game to cease issuing permits to import live frogs and turtles for human consumption. This culminated a 15-year struggle. The commission received nearly 4,000 letters supporting the ban. Two months later, pressured by market interests chiefly in San Francisco's Chinatown, and by half a dozen misguided legislators playing "the race card," two commission members tried unsuccessfully to reverse the new policy. The other three commissioners held firm. Then, in September 2010, Department of Fish & Game director John McCamman announced that the department would continue to issue the permits on a month-to-month basis.

California annually imports some two million American bullfrogs and an estimated 300,000-400,000 freshwater turtles for sale in live markets. The frogs are commercially raised in Taiwan. The turtles are taken from the wild in states east of the Rockies, depleting local populations.

We have had some 25 necropsies done on frogs and turtles from live markets in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Oakland and Sacramento, which have discovered that every animal sampled was infected with diseases including salmonella, E. coli, pasteurilla, gi-

Wild horses

I go back to helping get signatures for Wild Horse Annie, have my own wild mustangs, and have fought for them for many years. I want you know that I am extremely disappointed in **ANIMAL PEOPLE's** coverage of the fate of our wild horses.

More than 40,000 wild horses await their fate, but there was nothing in the last two issues of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** covering this. The BLM has been rounding up wild horses to extinction in the past two years.

The gathers are much crueler, with more deaths and injuries, often being done at the worst time of the year for the horses. Hundreds of horses have died in the last 18 months from the BLM not even following its own protocol. CBS legal analyst Andrew Cohen mentioned "the shoddy way in which the Bureau of Land Management treated wild horses out West, to the benefit of corporate interests," as part of the third most under-reported legal news stories of 2010.



—Shelley McKee
Pataskala, Ohio

Editor's note:

The two previous editions of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** did include articles about the efforts of philanthropist Madeline Pickens and then-New Mexico governor Bill Richardson to start privately funded sanctuaries to accommodate some of the wild horses whom the BLM has removed from the range as alleged surplus. The Pickens plan is still evolving, but Richardson on December 15, 2010, two weeks before leaving office, announced that his proposal to spend \$2.8 million in federal economic stimulus funding to create a wild horse sanctuary had become "unfeasible."

Civet coffee fad

Re "Coffee fad revives civet farming," in the November/December 2010 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, and "'Cat poop coffee' comes to Calgary," published in the *Calgary Sun* the same day I saw your article, what will people do next?

I don't think any responsible person would support this product knowing how animals have been made to suffer to produce it.

This is one of the most unnatural, cruel things we could do—and why???

In a world where most of us pay premium for organic shade-grown free trade coffees that don't exploit humans or harm birds, I can't believe anyone would purchase and support this. We will spread the word far and wide. Thanks for the education.

—Bill Bruce, Director,
Animal & Bylaw Services
The City of Calgary
POB 2100, Station M,
Calgary, Alberta
Canada T2P 2M5
Phone: 403-268-5811
Fax: 403-268-4927
<bill.bruce.calgary.ab.ca>



<http://content.calgary.ca/CAA/City+Hall/-Business+Units/Animal+and+Bylaw+Services>

Temple Grandin's view of the GAP standards

Below is a list of how the Global Animal Partnership Step 1 standards compare to those of the agricultural industry.

Pigs: better than the industry, since gestation crates are banned.

Beef: slightly better than about half the cattle industry. Two-thirds of the animal's life must be on range.

Chicken for slaughter: same as industry—not the National Chicken Council Standards, but well run large standard commercial chicken houses that I have toured. These chicken houses had low ammonia levels and dry litter.

Laying hens: no standards yet.

Items written above only apply to conditions on the farm. They do not apply to transport or slaughter.

—Temple Grandin



Grandin Livestock Systems
Fort Collins, Colorado
<www.grandin.com>

rdia, blood parasites, even a case of malaria—though it is illegal to sell diseased animals for human consumption. According to one 2010 study, 62% of the market frogs tested positive for the dreaded chytrid fungus, which has caused the extinction of some 200 species of amphibians worldwide in the past 15 years.

We hope incoming Governor Jerry Brown will take this matter more seriously than did Governor Schwarzenegger and his appointees. If not, legislation is in order.

—Eric Mills, coordinator
Action for Animals
P.O. Box 20184
Oakland, CA 94620
<a4a@mcn.org>



Advancing discussion of animal welfare

I haven't had time to read and thoughtfully compare the Global Animal Partnership, Humane Farm Animal Care, and Animal Welfare Approved certification plans, but my impression is that this is advancing the discussion of humane practices in livestock keeping. The competing standards and certifications are confusing, and the consumer is likely to make assumptions based on labeling that may not be justified, as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** president Kim Bartlett anticipates.

However, this is a complicated and entrenched issue. Getting people talking and thinking about it is an important step.

My experience with National Chicken Council standards is that they are carefully written so that any facility can justify its poultry practices. Industry self-regulation has not resulted in humane treatment for birds or responsible management for personnel.

As Temple Grandin wrote in her book, *Animals Make Us Human*, "Chicken welfare is so poor that I can't talk only about

the core emotions in this chapter. I have to talk about chickens' physical welfare as well."

I have concern about infighting among organizations. My hope is that even if organizations reach different conclusions for their own recommendations, they not view each other as The Enemy, but find ways to focus on improving animal welfare as the goal. Perhaps partnership with environmental organizations, acting to clean up and prevent pollution from concentrated animal feeding operations, is possible.

—Christine Heinrichs
Cambria, California
<christine.heinrichs@gmail.com>



Editor's note:

Christine Heinrichs is author of *How To Raise Chickens*, published by Voyageur Press in 2007

PASA & WPA condemn return of parrots to dealer

The Pan African Sanctuary Alliance and the World Parrot Trust have called on international law enforcement agencies to intervene following the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo's seizure of over 490 African grey parrots from a sanctuary to return the birds to a dealer.

These parrots were the survivors among 523 who were confiscated in September 2010 by the Congolese wildlife authority and local government officials, and taken to the Lwiro Primate Rehabilitation Center in South Kivu. The WPT worked with PASA and Lwiro to rehabilitate these parrots,

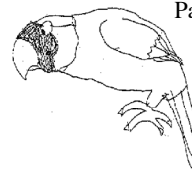
and constructed spacious enclosures to speed the recovery. More than 400 birds were judged fit to be released back into the wild.

But the DR Congo's Ministry of Environment ordered the parrots seized on November 22. The parrots were then flown back to Kinshasa and the original dealer.

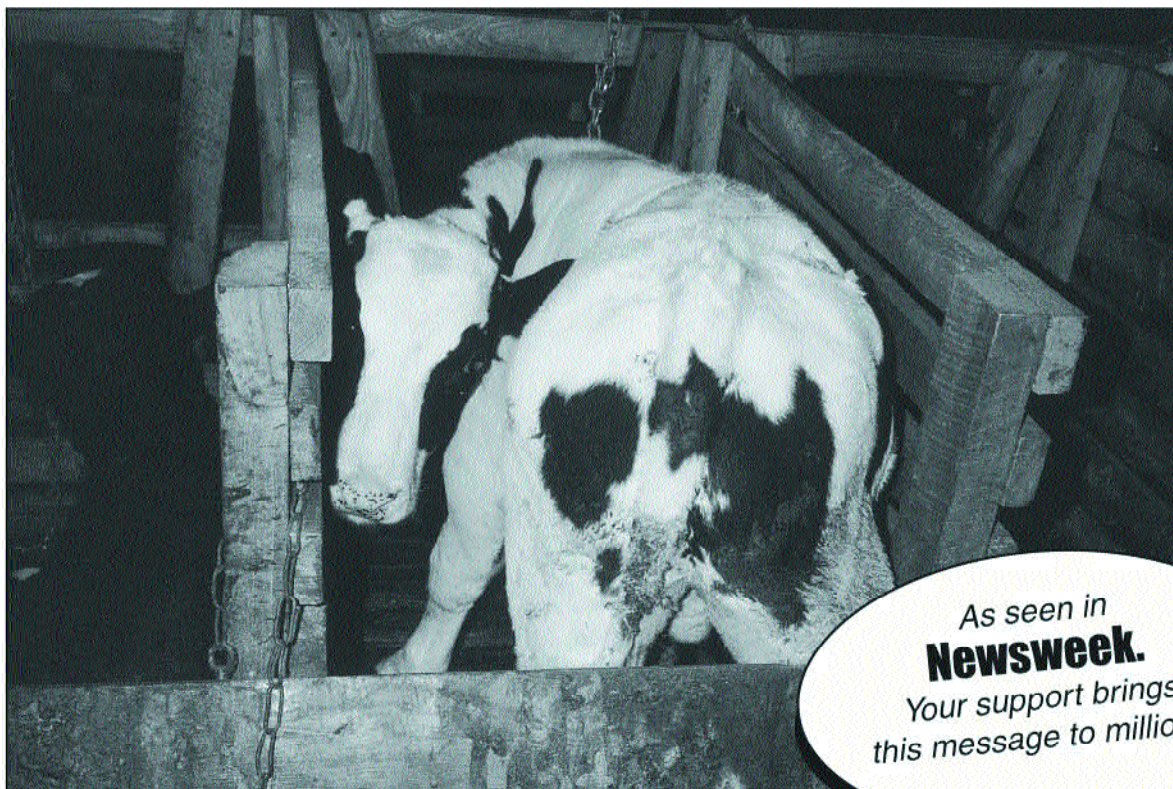
—Doug Cress, executive director
Pan African Sanctuary Alliance
P.O. Box 86645

Portland, OR 97206
Phone: 503-238-8077

<doug@pasaprimates.org>
<www.pasaprimates.org>



Q: Why can't this veal calf walk?



As seen in
Newsweek.
Your support brings
this message to millions.

A: He has only two feet.

Actually, less than two feet. Twenty-two inches to be exact. His entire life is spent chained in a wooden crate measuring only 22 inches wide and 56 inches long. The crate is so small that the calf can't walk or even turn around.

Most people think animal abuse is illegal. It isn't. In veal factories, it's business as usual. "Milk-fed" veal is produced by making a calf anemic.

The calf is *not* fed mother's milk. He's fed an antibiotic-laced formula that leads to diarrhea. He must lie in his own excrement—choking on the ammonia gases. He's chained with hundreds of other baby calves suffering the same fate.

Tainted Veal

According to the USDA, sulfamethazine (a known carcinogen), oxytetracycline, penicillin, neomycin, streptomycin, and gentamycin have all previously been found in veal.

Doesn't the USDA prevent tainted veal from being sold? Absolutely not. The USDA itself admits that most veal is never tested for toxic residue.

The industry claims that the drugs used in veal have been approved by the FDA. But don't buy it. The fact is: Illegal and unapproved drugs such as *clenbuterol* have been widely used in veal calves.

Veal factories maximize profits for agribusiness drug companies because they are a breeding ground for disease. To keep calves alive under such torturous conditions, they are given drugs which can be passed on to consumers.

It doesn't have to be this way. And with your help, it won't be. **Please join us.**

YES! I support HFA's National Veal Boycott.
Factory farms must be stopped from abusing animals, misusing drugs, and destroying the environment.
Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 ☐ Other _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

THE HUMANE FARMING ASSOCIATION (HFA)
HFA • P.O. Box 3577 • SAN RAFAEL, CA 94912 • www.hfa.org

Animal Welfare Institute comments on GAP certification standards

The Animal Welfare Institute (AWI) supports the development of third-party certification programs that improve the lives of animals, however, we have serious concerns about the standards of the Global Animal Partnership (GAP) program and the processes by which they are implemented. Since only Step 1 is required of all producers, the program must be judged by this standard.

In a recent presentation, GAP's executive director Miyun Park described GAP Step 1 as signifying meaningful welfare improvement to conventional, industry confinement production. AWI is concerned about the veracity of this claim, particularly in the case of its standards for meat chickens and beef cattle. Compare, for example, GAP Step 1 for chickens and Perdue Farms, which uses the USDA to audit its compliance with very thin National Chicken Council guidelines for some of its chicken products. Neither GAP Step 1 nor Perdue standards address rapid growth rates. Neither requires outdoor access or an enriched environment indoors. GAP standards are actually weaker than Perdue's in terms of dark periods, ammonia levels, and catching. GAP also falls below Perdue in terms of space: while Perdue has inadequate maximum density requirements, GAP does not have a maximum density requirement. Instead, the GAP space requirement for chickens uses a performance standard which states that "Chickens must be able to express natural behavior, including

standing, spreading their wings, turning around, flapping their wings, and preening, without touching another bird."

However, flapping wings requires about two square feet, and GAP Step 1-2 birds don't receive anywhere close to two square feet each. A performance standard such as this should state that all, or a measurable percentage, of the birds, must be able to engage in the behavior simultaneously--or a minimum engineering standard (a space requirement) must be tied to the performance standard. Clearly, since the Perdue standards for animal care are unacceptable, then so too are those of GAP Step 1.

Current package labels and promotional materials for other GAP steps are misleading. For example, a brochure describing GAP offered in Whole Foods stores advertises "independent 3rd-party audits of farm, transport and slaughter/processing plants." While Whole Foods has a slaughter standard for the meat it sells, slaughter is not currently covered under GAP standards.

Step 5+ chicken meat is labeled "entire life on same farm," yet the standard allows transport off the farm for up to two hours. Step 3 chicken and pig meat is labeled "enhanced outdoor access," yet vegetation is not required at this level, and there's nothing "enhanced" about small concrete slabs which are acceptable under the standards. Similarly, the label claim for Step 4 beef is "pasture cen-

tered," yet confinement in a feedlot for up to 4 months a year is allowed.

GAP's executive director claims she did not play a role in the production of the Whole Foods brochure that made the misleading claims. This raises questions about the authority of GAP to control the use of the GAP logo and to ensure the accuracy of the program description by participating producers or marketers, which further undermines the credibility of GAP.

Routine auditing is a fundamental component of certification programs; it is the means by which the program's standards are enforced. GAP offers consumers no information about its audits. We don't know how often audits are conducted or even if all farms are audited, and if not every farm, what percentage of farms is inspected to ensure compliance with even their minimal requirements. GAP's response to criticism seems to be that the program is a work in progress. But all certification programs are in a constant state of research, review and revision. The program should not be marketed based on future plans but rather on what the standards and audit processes are today. If after years of testing, a significant financial investment, and input from a broad range of individuals, the program still is not ready for prime time, then the launch should be delayed until it is ready.

Not only is GAP not a transparent, third-party certification program, it has con-

flict of interest issues. Several members of its board are producers or retailers with a vested interest in the outcome of decisions. And, to our dismay, GAP is not granting reciprocity for farmers participating in one of the existing animal welfare certification programs, meaning an additional financial burden to family farmers with limited resources who will have difficulty paying the \$1,900 inspection fees required to participate in GAP.

A fatal flaw of GAP is the premise that producers will voluntarily improve their animal care practices in order to move up to a higher step. Since there is no requirement that producers move to a higher step (it is optional), and the financial incentive appears negligible, we see no motivation for a producer to expend the time and money required to advance. In addition, AWI suspects that consumers lack both the knowledge and the patience to differentiate between animal welfare claims at the various GAP levels.

Little will be accomplished if GAP standards remain low, consumers shop at the bottom of the scale, and producers fail to move up.



—Cathy Liss, president
Animal Welfare Institute
900 Pennsylvania Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20003
Phone: 202-337-2332
<awi@awionline.org>
<www.awionline.org>

Humane Farm Animal Care comments on the GAP standards

The Global Animal Partnership multi-tiered animal welfare certification program on close inspection is a disappointment.

When the Humane Farm Animal Care "Certified Humane" program was founded, the purpose was to improve the lives of farm animals in food production in both indoor and outdoor housing systems. The Animal Welfare Institute's "Animal Welfare Approved" program was founded to improve the lives of farm animals exclusively through pasture-based family-owned farms. Both programs now make an enormous difference in the day-to-day lives of the farm animals raised under those standards.

For the last few years, Whole Foods' leadership has been talking about the creation of its own farm animal welfare program and claimed it would have the highest standards of all. With Whole Foods being an \$8 billion dollar retailer, that was believable. With their buying power, it was thought that they could make a real difference to benefit farm animals by requiring their suppliers to meet high welfare standards. McDonald's and Burger King made a huge difference to humane slaughter by requiring the slaughterhouses where their beef was processed to meet the American Meat Institute Guidelines written by Temple Grandin; those slaughterhouses must be audited by trained inspectors to ensure compliance. If those slaughterhouses do not meet the standards, McDonald's and Burger King will not purchase meat from their plants. With their buying power, McDonald's and Burger King facilitated change. Whole Foods has a similar opportunity to facilitate change in order to improve the lives of farm animals.

Considering Whole Foods Market's potential leadership ability, the numbers of advisors who were brought together (including animal welfare experts, scientists, and farmers), and the number of years it took to put this program together, GAP should be able to achieve higher animal welfare standards than either McDonald's or Burger King. However, the GAP

standards fall short.

It is inexplicable that prominent leaders of the humane community are embracing a program within which some standards are lower than those of the industry it routinely denigrates. In order to be GAP-certified, a producer only needs to achieve Step 1 standards. If a producer meets Step 1, there is no requirement for the producer to continue making improvements in order to achieve higher Step levels (2-5).

GAP standards have not addressed some of the most egregious practices of the meat industry. For example, chickens need sleep. Chickens raised only for their meat (not egg-layers) live a short period of time, usually six to seven weeks, before they are slaughtered. Current industrialized chicken farming practice is to leave the lights on 24 hours a day, seven days a week, so that the chickens will eat continuously and get to market weight as fast as possible. Unfortunately for the chickens, they gain too much weight too fast, which causes leg problems and constant pain. To remedy this, chicken industry standards require barns to have a dark period to enable the chickens to sleep. The GAP Program has no requirement at all—in any of their five steps—for a dark period.

This is only one example. GAP as of yet has no standards for egg-laying hens or dairy cattle. The space requirement for beef cattle in feedlots is less than current industry recommendations, and there is no space allowance for pigs—even though it is claimed that crating gestating (not farrowing) sows is forbidden in the GAP program. There are no slaughter standard requirements at all for the GAP program.

Why would a producer who has secured GAP certification by meeting Step 1 spend the money and make the effort to move up to another Step? GAP is giving industrial-type operations recognition for minimal standards which in some cases provide no benefit to the animals - and, through GAP, these factory operations are securing humane community endorsement too! There is no incentive to meet the require-

ments of any Step other than the Step at which a producer entered the program.

Farm Forward is a separate non-profit organization that works with GAP. Farm Forward and GAP have mutual board members (Miyun Park of GAP and John Mackey of Whole Foods on the Farm Forward Board, and John Mackey and PETA representative Steve Gross of Farm Forward on the GAP Board). Farm Forward is collaborating with GAP to try to persuade more retailers to require GAP certification for their suppliers. Since there are no slaughter standard requirements for GAP, these retailers have to arrange for separate slaughter inspections and traceability audits if they are going to meet other standards.

Retailers who sign onto the GAP program can sell their GAP-approved products to consumers who genuinely care about how farm animals are treated—yet it does not cost the retailers anything, since their producers and suppliers do not have to make any real changes to participate. The GAP standards appear to accommodate industry, and not the well-being of farm animals.

There have been many retailers who have required producers to make genuine efforts to improve animal welfare. Many producers have spent large amounts of money to make the changes required by the Certified Humane and Animal Welfare Approved programs in order to actually make a difference for farm animals. Unfortunately, the GAP program runs the very real risk of undermining that work and lowering the bar for farm animal welfare.



—Adele Douglass, founder and president
Humane Farm Animal Care
1039 Sterling Road #201
Herndon, VA 20170
Phone: 703-435-3883
<adele@certifiedhumane.org>
<www.certifiedhumane.com>

Global Animal Partnership responds to AWI & HFAC criticisms

Thank you for introducing **ANIMAL PEOPLE's** readership to Global Animal Partnership and our signature initiative, the 5-Step Animal Welfare Rating Standards.

The primary mission of GAP, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is to facilitate and encourage continuous improvement in animal agriculture. GAP strives to change the landscape of animal agriculture through a positive, engaging, multi-stakeholder approach.

We were born from such an orchestrated collaborative effort, initially led by Whole Foods Market leadership, who brought together advisors over a number of years to help guide them in the creation of what would be their own corporate farm animal welfare standards. Whole Foods Market then recognized that greater positive impact could be achieved by working with an international organization. In 2008, Global Animal Partnership was formed as an independent, nonprofit organization with the charge of further developing these standards—and disseminating them beyond Whole Foods Market's own stores.

Our Board of Directors and Welfare & Farming Advisory Council include expert leadership from farming, ranching, retail, science, and advocacy. We're extremely proud

and continuously inspired that individuals from such different backgrounds have come together with the commonality of wanting to reduce the suffering of animals in agriculture. We firmly believe that any improvement in the welfare of farm animals is to be lauded, which is why we have tremendous respect for the important work and successes of Humane Farm Animal Care's Certified Humane and Animal Welfare Institute's Animal Welfare Approved programs.

Each assessment program plays an important role in promoting higher animal welfare. However, given the structure of our 5-Step Animal Welfare Rating Standards, we don't believe that a comparison against other schemes is in order. Our signature initiative was developed as multi-tiered standards that, through their very design, promote continuous improvement in animal agriculture. In contrast to single-tiered, pass/fail schemes, our 5-Step Program encourages and inspires producers to continually move up the welfare ladder and thereby afford higher welfare to animals. Additionally, we believe this multi-tiered structure better informs consumers, as well as acknowledges and rewards producers for their welfare practices, which is critical.

Each set of tiered standards (e.g., Step 1, Step 3, Step 5) has its own require-

ments that must be met before certification to that particular Step level is assigned, if appropriate. Producers have the freedom to aim for any Step level they choose. Each Step rating has its own distinct label—from Step 1 to Step 5+—affixed on products that identifies the particular Step level achieved. I'm thrilled to share that even in our early days, approximately 1,000 farms and ranches have already been certified from Steps 1 to 5, positively impacting the lives of more than 140 million animals annually. It may also be of interest to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** readers to know that the majority of Step-certified producers are Step 2 or higher.

In order to maintain the highest level of credibility and objectivity, Global Animal Partnership elected not to conduct our own audits and verification of farms and ranches, but rather to work with independent, third-party certification companies. In this way, as the standard-setter, we are best positioned to remain objective and maintain the integrity of our 5-Step Program.

We recently welcomed the successful completion of a two-year, exclusive pilot program with Whole Foods Market of our first three sets of multi-tiered standards—for chickens raised for meat, cattle raised for beef, and pigs. During this period, we have been

extremely fortunate to have had the opportunity to test, refine, and grow the initiative, develop processes and set protocols, and engage with and learn from truly welfare-minded farmers. As Wayne Pacelle shared in the article, we are now in the process of revising the original three sets of standards based on key learnings from the pilot and new science, as well as developing three new sets of standards, for egg-laying hens, turkeys, and sheep and lambs. In the near future, we will make the program even more robust by developing breeding and slaughter standards.

Despite our relative infancy and newness in the marketplace, there is already steadily increasing interest in our 5-Step Animal Welfare Rating Standards Program from others in the retail sector, varying from independent local stores to regional and even national chains.

I hope to soon share with **ANIMAL PEOPLE** readers the announcement of our newest collaborators in the effort to improve the welfare of animals in agriculture.

—Miyun Park, executive director
Global Animal Partnership
P.O. Box 21484
Washington, DC 20009
<mpark@globalanimalpartnership.org>
<www.globalanimalpartnership.org>



AWARDS & HONORS

PETA on December 20, 2010 named former U.S. President **Bill Clinton** “Person of the Year” for adopting a vegan diet. ““I live on beans, legumes, vegetables, fruit,” Clinton told CNN reporter Wolf Blitzer, crediting the diet with helping him to lose 24 pounds before his daughter Chelsea’s July 2010 wedding. “Bill Clinton won not only because he’s the most prominent person to go vegan this year but also because he used his platform to articulate the reasons why a plant-based diet is the most healthy diet,” PETA senior vice president **Dan Mathews** told media. “It doesn’t hurt,” Mathews added, “that he has [his daughter] Chelsea’s lead to follow. She went vegan at 10. Her motivation was not wanting to support cruelty to animals.”

The Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries on December 7, 2010 presented the inaugural **Carole Noon Award for Sanctuary Excellence** to the **Animals Asia Foundation**, in recognition of the sanctuaries the foundation has operated in China since 2000 and in Vietnam since 2007 for moon bears rescued from bile farms. Together, the sanctuaries currently house about 350 bears. Named in honor of Save The Chimps sanctuary founder Carole C. Noon, the award included a donation of \$5,000, underwritten by the **Pettus Crowe Foundation**, the **Humane Society of the U.S.**, **Born Free USA**, and the **American Anti-Vivisection Society**.

New Delhi TV and **Toyota** in December 2010 presented “Greenie Eco Awards” to animal defenders including wildlife ranger **Mukul Tamuli**, who is credited with stopping rhino poaching at the Pabitora sanctuary in Assam, and the **Forest Guards Railway Patrolling Force**, of Rajaji National Park in northern India. While fatal train collisions with elephants have increased elsewhere, none have occurred in Rajaji National Park since 2005.

Tinatin Chavchanidze, chairing the **Animal Rights Committee of the Republic of Georgia** since 2007, was named Person of the Year for 2010 by the Georgian youth magazine *Hot Chocolate*.

National Free Feral Cat Spay Day

April 27, 2011

Sponsored by Alley Cat Rescue

FFCSD asks veterinarians to provide free or low-cost spays and neuters to feral cats. For more information please contact Alley Cat Rescue.

By helping just one cat, you will save the lives of many.
Alley Cat Rescue • (301) 277-5595 • www.SaveACat.org

SHARK Octocopter drone allegedly shot down while documenting Pennsylvania pigeon shoot

HAMBURG, Pennsylvania—An Octocopter drone video camera platform snagged in a tall tree guarantees that Showing Animals Respect & Kindness (SHARK) will continue to keep an eye on the Wing Pointe gun club near Hamburg, Pennsylvania for some time to come, while pursuing legal action to get the Octocopter back.

The case appears likely to ensure that SHARK and Wing Pointe will meet in court, but not necessarily in connection with

the cruelty prosecution SHARK has tried to press against Wing Pointe since retrieving 21 wounded but living pigeons from a “dead pile” after a pigeon shoot on December 5, 2010.

“On January 2, 2011 SHARK was legally video documenting a Wing Pointe pigeon shoot using a remote controlled aircraft when it suddenly crashed into the trees,” explained SHARK spokesperson Stu Chaifetz. “SHARK personnel suspected that the aircraft had been shot down. Video transmitted from

the aircraft, along with ground cameras, show that the aircraft was shot at least twice,” Chaifetz said.

“The first three suspected rifle shots occur at 8, 12, and 14 seconds,” narrated SHARK founder Steve Hindi, showing the video to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** shortly before posting it to YouTube. “The fourth shot occurs at 1 minute, 30 seconds. The second and fourth shots are the ones that hit.

“Our evidence proves that our aircraft was intentionally downed,” Hindi alleged. “Given the relatively close proximity of homes in the area, this was a reckless act. It should be noted that Wing Pointe’s own website states, ‘No rifle or pistol fire are allowed,’ and ‘Shotgun fire only,’” Hindi added.

The tree where the Octocopter fell is on Wing Pointe property—and tall enough that retrieving the Octocopter will require either use of a cherry-picker or a gust of wind sufficient to break substantial branches. Wing Pointe has denied SHARK access to the property, and attempted to require through counsel that any visual images taken by the Octocopter be erased.

“The aircraft will without question

show evidence of having been shot,” Hindi said. “Withholding our aircraft is in itself a crime. Withholding our aircraft to hide the shooting is another crime.”

But SHARK will apparently have to pursue a civil case to try to establish those points, since the Pennsylvania State Police and Berks County district attorney John Adams have refused to accept charges against Wing Pointe owner Joseph Solana.

This was no surprise to Chaifetz and Hindi. “Since November the state police and district attorney Adams have ignored animal cruelty at Wing Pointe,” alleged Chaifetz. “Adams has received campaign donations from pigeon shooters,” Chaifetz noted.

Wing Pointe is among the last four locations in Pennsylvania that still host pigeon shoots. Hindi debuted in animal advocacy in 1990 by protesting against a pigeon shoot held annually in Hegins, Pennsylvania from 1935 to 1999. The Hegins pigeon shoot was stopped by a Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruling which upheld the application of the state humane law against pigeon shoots—but charges have to be filed to be prosecuted.

Hindi formed SHARK in 1992. The first SHARK campaign action after incorporation ended pigeon shoots in Illinois.

Penn State faculty start industry-backed poultry transport certification program

STATE COLLEGE, Pa.—Pennsylvania State University faculty in the first week of 2011 introduced what they termed “a certification program believed to be the first to offer third-party quality assurance training on poultry handling and transportation for ‘catch crews.’”

The program was developed as a collaboration among 12 organizations and government agencies which operate in support of agribusiness, among them the National Chicken Council, United Egg Producers, National Turkey Federation, USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service, and American Veterinary Medical Association.

Training sessions are to center on a manual edited by Eva Wallner-Pendleton, DVM, of the Penn State veterinary and biomedical sciences department. Downloadable from <www.poultryhandling.org>, the manual lists 12 other contributing authors, and thanks 17 people for sharing expertise.

The manual does not prescribe certification standards for poultry handling, but extensively describes what the authors believe to be best practice.

Writes Wallner-Pendleton in the introduction, “A new era of animal welfare ‘certification, documentation, and third party auditing’ is becoming a requirement in many countries. More and more buyers are requesting—or requiring—animal welfare certification with audits. Some retailers also require their suppliers to participate in these programs and document the training. These requirements must also be met by the loading and transportation companies they hire. This manual will help employees of these companies to understand animal welfare and to share company and industry expectations on handling poultry.”

Studies have documented that about 3% of chickens raised for meat and 29% of spent hens sent to slaughter suffer broken bones at some point in capture, handling, and transportation. Summarizes Wallner-Pendleton, without direct reference to the research, “Improper catching, handling, and loading practices create stress and may cause trauma to the birds. But catchers who are careful and conscientious can reduce these potential injuries.”

The Penn State poultry transport program is “funded in part under the umbrella of the Avian Influenza Cooperative Agricultural Project, supported by the USDA-NIFA AFRI Animal Biosecurity Competitive Program,” the manual acknowledges.

Emphasizes Wallner-Pendleton, “Biosecurity and disease prevention are also important aspects of poultry handling and transportation. Loading crews, transport vehicles, and equipment visit many farms in the course of their work. Cleaning and disinfecting equipment between farms and wearing cleaned and laun-

dered clothing are very important to prevent the accidental transfer of disease between farms... This manual includes a chapter on basic disease recognition and appropriate response for crews who suspect they may be handling sick birds.”

A chapter on euthanasia specifically lists as unacceptable “unapproved methods of physical trauma, drowning, poisons such as cyanide or strychnine, [and] formaldehyde or other highly irritating fumes.”

When asked specifically whether “unapproved methods of physical trauma” include killing poultry by live burial or tossing them into a woodchipper, as was done in several disease control situations and after natural disasters in 2003-2005, Wallner-Pendleton told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “We are addressing only those forms of euthanasia that may be necessary to euthanize an animal found injured/unable to be transported. Our primary reference for the manual was the *Guidelines* set forth by the AVMA Animal Welfare Committee.”

The AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia do not exclude killing animals by live burial or tossing them into a woodchipper in disease control situations.

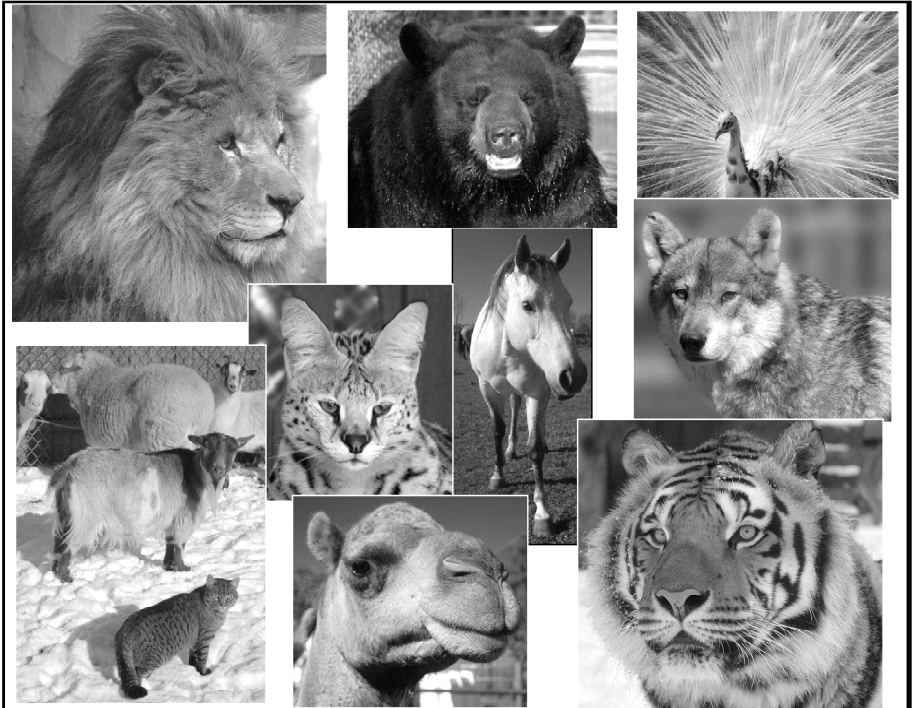
The chapter on euthanasia mentions that “Captive bolt guns are currently under research for use in large birds, such as mature turkeys,” but does not mention the so-called Low Atmospheric Pressure System endorsed by the American Humane Association in September 2010. Presented by the AHA as “a new method of controlled-atmosphere stunning for poultry,” the LAPS system is not the approach usually meant by the term “controlled atmosphere,” which usually refers to gassing birds with nitrogen, argon, or carbon dioxide.

Rather, LAPS kills birds by decompression, a method recommended by the AHA for killing dogs and cats for about 30 years beginning in 1950, but not used in the U.S. since 1985, prohibited as inhumane for use with dogs and cats in 24 states, and prohibited as inhumane for use with any animal in 12 states.

The Penn State manual cites as a reference the *American Humane Certified Farm Animal Program to Develop Humane Livestock Transport*, published in 2009. No other animal care certification programs directed by humane organizations are mentioned.

“Don’t ever go with a reporter to watch any video footage,” the Media Relations chapter advises poultry handlers and haulers, under the subheading “Ambushes.”

“If a reporter or camera crew arrives while birds are being loaded or unloaded,” the manual adds, “employees should stop their work and go on break until the visitors have left. The crew foreman should call the farm manager or other company representative who will decide on an appropriate course of action.”



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What does the Food Safety Modernization Act mean for animal welfare? (from page 1)

illness outbreaks such as the eruptions of foot-and-mouth disease, mad cow disease, Nipah virus, the H5N1 avian flu and H1N1 swine flu, and Sudden Acute Respiratory Syndrome have caused producers in Europe, Asia, and Egypt to kill millions of animals in each of the past 15 years. The increased prophylactic killing is partly because the advent of factory farming has increased the numbers of animals exposed to pathogens in each afflicted barn, and partly because awareness that zoonotic disease can spread internationally and jump into humans has increased exponentially since the 1996 discovery that mad cow disease appears to cause the invariably fatal Creutzfeld-Jakob Disease in humans.

Avian and swine influenza became well-recognized threats to human health after the 1918 global influenza pandemic, which is believed to have killed from 50 to 100 million people worldwide—17 million in India alone. Because farms were much smaller until recent decades, however, the scale of prophylactic killing was less. Before the discovery of the mad cow disease connection to human deaths, there was relatively little concern that livestock and poultry diseases might afflict humans even if humans do not display symptoms of infection soon after exposure.

Zoonotic disease outbreaks that do cause relatively prompt symptoms in humans are also increasingly widely recognized.

“Each year, foodborne illness strikes 48 million Americans, hospitalizing 100,000 and killing thousands,” Food & Drugs commissioner Margaret A. Hamburg posted to Food-Safety.gov on January 3, 2011. The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention estimates that food-borne contaminants, chiefly bacterial, contribute to causing about 300,000 serious illnesses per year, at cost of about \$152 billion.

Pet food covered

Commented the Humane Society of the U.S. in a prepared statement, the Food Safety Modernization Act “is an important step forward in protecting public health, and will also provide much needed additional safeguards for pet food. Among its many provi-

sions, the bill sets safety standards for imported foods, requiring importers to verify compliance, and gives the FDA authority to impose mandatory recalls of contaminated products. In 2007,” the HSUS statement remembered, “imported pet food tainted with melamine killed or sickened many pets, helping spur legislation that year to strengthen food safety oversight. But the law passed in 2007 did not include mandatory recall authority or certification of foreign food sold to U.S. consumers.”

“Countless recalls in the pet industry have shaken consumer confidence,” added Daphne Reid of PetPeoplesPlace.com. “Salmonella contamination has affected companies such as Mars Petcare U.S., Iams, and Pro-Pet, leading to recalls of foods and supplements. The current system relies on government inspectors to catch contamination. This new legislation would require farmers and manufacturers to not only implement strategies to prevent contamination, but also test them continuously to be sure they are effective. While the bill would not apply to meat, poultry, or processed eggs, which are regulated by the USDA,” Reid noted, “these have long been subject to much more rigorous inspections and oversight than FDA-regulated foods.”

“The new food safety law will give FDA expanded authority over approximately 80% of the U.S. food supply,” wrote Helena Bottemiller for *Food Safety News*, “by giving the agency mandatory recall powers and expanded access to records.”

Small producers

“Though the measure had bipartisan support, critics worry that the FDA will use its authority in ways that will favor corporate farms and manufacturers,” assessed Patrik Jonsson of *Christian Science Monitor*.

“Supporters include General Mills, Kraft Foods, Monsanto, and the National Association of Manufacturers,” Jonsson observed. “Opponents include the American Grassfed Association, Family Farm Defenders, and the Small Farms Conservancy.”

“Amendments to the final bill,”

introduced by Senator Jon Tester of Montana and Representative Kay Hagan of North Carolina, “exempted companies with less than \$500,000 in revenue and companies that sell their goods only within 250 miles of the plant,” Jonsson noted. “The Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture, which represents smaller farmers, backed the bill,” as did *Fast Food Nation* author Eric Schlosser and *The Omnivore’s Dilemma* author Michael Pollan, after the Tester/Hagan amendment was added.

But advocates of small-scale and local livestock production remain wary of the Food Safety Modernization Act, especially from concern that the enforcement regulations will include record-keeping requirements that favor factory farmers with more employees and less variation in how individual animals are raised.

Summarized *Grist* health and food issues reporter David E. Gumpert, “For years, the USDA sought to implement a program that would force farmers to register their farms and each and every animal, known as the National Animal Identification System. The USDA finally pulled back in 2009,” because of “growing farmer outrage,” Gumpert said, that the identification system would “allow the feds ever-expanding control over their animals and their land.

“Tester-Hagan may wind up accomplishing something similar,” Gumpert speculated. This might occur, Gumpert suggested, through the research required to complete a study required by the Tester-Hagan amendment. In the language of the amendment, the study will attempt to quantify “the incidence of food-borne illness originating from each size and type of operation.”

Responded Farm & Ranch Freedom Alliance founder and executive director Judith McGeary, “The bill does not mandate that any person hand over information to the government. There is a positive reason behind this study,” McGeary said. “In arguing that local foods and small farms are safer and should not be regulated by FDA, we don’t have a lot of hard data to back us up. The directive to do a study is the first attempt to get data to show

that smaller-scale producers who don’t commingle their products and who do less processing and transporting produce safer food.”

Unpasteurized milk

Agreed *Grist* food editor Bonnie Azab Powell, “The FDA’s recent actions toward raw milk and cheesemaking farms does not provide much reassurance that it will adopt a *laissez-faire* attitude toward similar operations going forward. However, call me naively optimistic, but I think that the growing visibility of the real-food, know-your-farmer movement, and the public’s outrage over massive recalls and foodborne illness outbreaks, will go a long way toward ensuring that the FDA’s focus stays where it belongs: on high-risk industrial plants.”

The FDA has actively sought to discourage the growth of the raw (unpasteurized) milk industry primarily due to the spread of the bacterial infections E. coli, salmonellosis, and campylobacteriosis transmitted by unpasteurized dairy products. Also of concern since 1996 have been incidents in Massachusetts and Oklahoma in which raw milk producers sold milk from rabid cows, consumed by more than 80 people who received post-exposure rabies vaccination, and suspicion that tick-borne encephalitis can be transmitted by consuming milk from infected cattle and goats.

The Animal Welfare Institute’s Animal Welfare Approved program certifies husbandry practices on family farms. Though AWI advocates small-scale farming, “AWI didn’t take a position on the Food Safety Modernization Act,” AWI president Cathy Liss told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “because we saw the impact to animal welfare as indirect, but we supported the legislation’s intent. It allows the FDA to inspect farms as well as slaughter plants, which is a good thing. And it also gives FDA access to internal records and gives the agency authority to set standards for imported foods, investigate animal disease outbreaks and to recall food products. We’ll have to wait for the rule making process to see how animal depopulation for disease control, and other issues that may affect animal welfare, will be handled.” —Merritt Clifton

South Korea kills 1.6 million pigs, cattle, & dogs in fight against foot and mouth disease

SEOUL—Water taps spat blood on New Year’s Day 2011 in Paju, Gyeonggi Province, South Korea, “just one day after some of nearly 1,000 pigs within a 500-meter radius of a foot-and-mouth-hit livestock farm were buried alive to prevent further spread of the disease,” reported Park Si-soo of *Korea Times*.

The quarantine officers who ordered the live burial claimed the water would soon run clean, but “many experts insis that blood from the buried animals will eventually contaminate underground reservoirs,” Park Si-soo wrote.

“Underground water near burial sites for animals slaughtered between 2008 and 2010 showed high contamination with colon bacillus and other bacteria,” charged Representative Hong Young-pyo of the opposition Democratic Party.

The pit had a vinyl liner, but “It’s possible that the vinyl could be torn by animals struggling to survive,” a quarantine officer admitted to Park Si-soo.

“In principle, animals are killed before burial,” Park Si-soo continued. “But the rule has frequently been violated with the spread of the disease, outpacing the authorities’ slaughter capacity.” Several leading newspapers published photos of dump trucks tilting live pigs into burial pits and of pigs trying to climb out of the pits ahead of the machinery that was to cover them.

“People assigned to cull animals are reportedly suffering guilt and trauma. Counseling has been made available for them,” said Korea Animal Rights Advocates. “The government has ruled out euthansia drugs for cattle, so cattle are being buried alive as well.”

After weeks of resisting

appeals from KARA and internationally recognized disease control experts to begin vaccinating animals against foot-and-mouth disease, the South Korean Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries began vaccinating cattle on December 25, 2010, inoculating 1.2 million within the next two weeks. On January 6, 2011 the ministry agreed to vaccinate 210,000 brood sows on 1,456 farms. The ministry allowed vaccination against foot-and-mouth disease only once before, in 2000. Vaccination was resisted because international regulations forbid exporting diseased livestock and livestock products. Foot-and-mouth disease can be stopped by vaccination, but vaccinated animals test positive for exposure, and there is no reliable way to distinguish vaccinated animals from infected animals.

More than 1.7 million pigs, cattle, and dogs (believed to be mostly dogs raised for meat) were killed between the start of the South Korean foot-and-mouth outbreak on November 29, 2010 and the end of the second week in January 2011.

The toll dwarfed the 160,000

animals killed to stop a foot-and-mouth disease outbreak in 2002, and may be the second largest cull in response to foot-and-mouth disease in world history, trailing only the 10 million animals who were killed to eradicate foot-and-mouth from Britain in 2001.

A South Korean farmer who visited an infected pig farm in China is believed to have started the 2010-2011 outbreak, which appeared almost simultaneously in South Korea and Japan .

South Korea culled at least 30,000 pigs and Japan killed 85,000 between April and mid-June 2010, when the outbreak was briefly believed to have been contained—but there were reports of wild pigs becoming infected in South Korea. Wild pigs may have been involved in the November re-emergence of the disease.

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In honor of
Lindy & Marvin Sobel.
—Alice Holzman



Manuel Mollinedo to direct Honolulu Zoo

HONOLULU—Former Los Angeles and San Francisco Zoo director Manuel Mollinedo, 64, was on December 16, 2010 introduced as the new director of the Honolulu Zoo.

Mollinedo, then heading the Los Angeles Parks & Recreation Department, with no background in zoo work, was in September 1995 drafted to run the Los Angeles Zoo on an interim basis. Several of the animal exhibits were frequent targets of protest. The American Zoo Association had given the zoo a year to make improvements or lose accreditation. By year’s end Mollinedo was credited by the AZA and the Los Angeles city council with achieving an unexpectedly quick turnaround, winning over some of the zoo’s leading critics. Made zoo director on a permanent basis, Mollinedo introduced a series of ambitious upgrades to most of the major Los Angeles Zoo exhibits, but came under criticism after a Komodo dragon bit a celebrity guess in 2001.

Hired away by the San Francisco Zoo in 2004, Mollinedo raised attendance to the the highest level it had reached in 25 years, but resigned in February 2008, about six weeks after a tiger leaped out of her exhibit to kill a 17-year-old visitor on Christmas Day 2007. Mollinedo had told media that the walls around the tiger exhibit were four feet higher than they were. Subsequent investigation found that drainage work done more than 20 years earlier had raised the floor of the exhibit where the attack occurred by about one foot.



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U.S. retail fur industry didn't get big holiday bounce—and did get Truth in Fur Labeling Act

WASHINGTON D.C.— Experiencing sales declines of 15.5% in 2008 and 7% in 2009, U.S. retail furriers ballyhooed hopes for a big comeback during the 2010 holiday season. But the first available sales data suggests they didn't get it.

The U.S. Census Bureau reported that apparel sales were up 2.7%. But the increase came mostly at department stores, whose sales were up 2.8%, not at high-end luxury boutiques.

The department store contribution to the U.S. retail fur trade consists chiefly of selling inexpensive fur-trimmed garments, mostly made abroad.

The biggest news for that branch of the fur trade during the 2010 holiday season was that U.S. President Barack Obama on December 18 signed into law the Truth in Fur Labeling Act.

Taking effect in March 2011, the Truth in Fur Labeling Act "finally closes a loophole in federal law that currently allows some animal fur garments to go unlabeled if the value of the fur is \$150 or less, leaving consumers in the dark as to whether they are buying faux or animal fur," explained Humane Society Legislative Fund president Mike Markarian.

"Since the 1950s," Markarian elaborated, "any fur garment sold in the U.S. has had to include a label indicating the species of animal used and the country of origin, but the law has excluded fur-trimmed garments if the value of the fur is \$150 or less. At recent pelt prices, that meant a jacket could have fur on its collar or cuffs from 30 rabbits, nine chinchillas, three foxes, or three tanuki and still be sold without a label indicating the fur species. The Federal Trade Commission estimates that one in every eight fur garments doesn't require labeling."

Humane Society of the U.S. investigations have repeatedly embarrassed retailers in recent years by catching them selling garments trimmed with imported dog and cat fur.

The Dallas-based Neiman Marcus chain, for instance, in late January 2010 agreed to

pay a \$25,000 judgement to settle a lawsuit brought by HSUS over the sale of garments with dog fur trim labeled "faux fur."

Saks Fifth Avenue earlier settled a similar case brought by HSUS for \$6,500.

Burlington Coat Factory, Macy's and J.C. Penney Co. in 2006 withdrew from sale a line of coats trimmed with the fur of tanuki, a type of Asian wild dog, though Penney later returned the coats to store racks.

An HSUS investigation in 2009 caught Neiman Marcus and Bergdorf Goodman

promoting mislabeled low-end fur products which would have violated the Endangered Species Act if they really had been what the advertisements said they were.

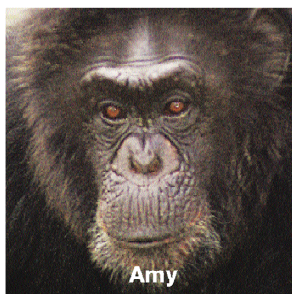
In actuality, according to Neiman Marcus spokesperson Ginger Reeder, the alleged "ocelot" boots that appeared in a web promotion were made from dyed goat hide.

U.S. retail fur sales in 2009 totaled \$1.26 billion, representing a drop of 31% in five years, according to Fur Information Council of America statistics.

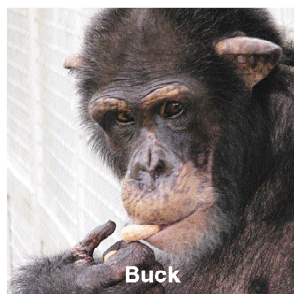
U.S. retail fur sales of \$1.82 billion in 2005 exceeded the all-time high of \$1.8 billion reached in 1987, but were barely half of the 1988 peak after adjustment for inflation.

U.S. retail fur sales in inflation-adjusted dollars are now at the lowest ebb since the fur industry began tracking the numbers in 1942.

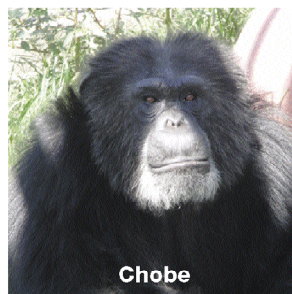
The \$332 million fur sales volume then, in current dollars, would be worth \$4.5 billion. The fur sales volume now, in 1942 dollars, would be \$90 million.



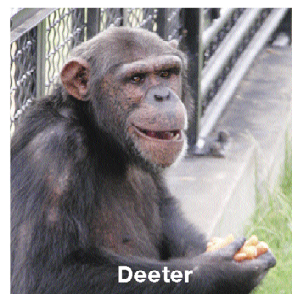
Amy



Buck



Chobe



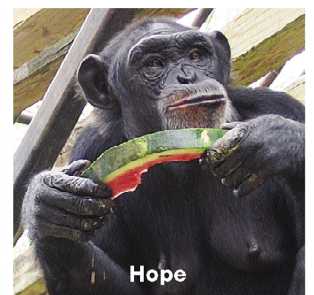
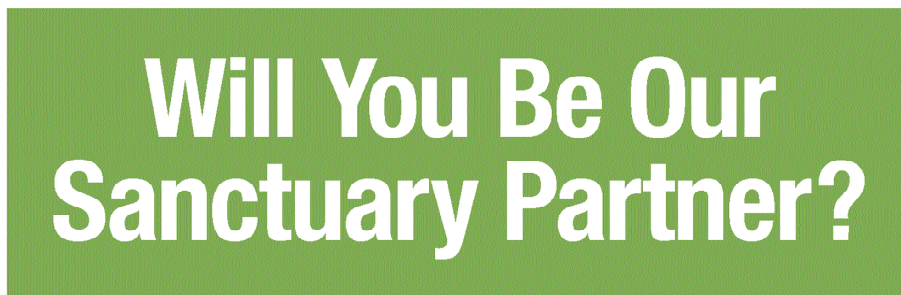
Deeter



Grace



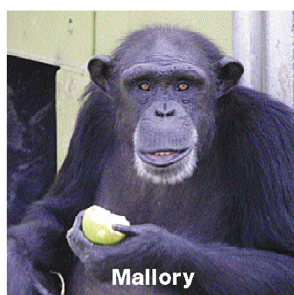
Harry



Hope



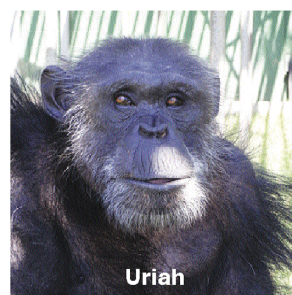
Jewel with Baby Grace



Mallory



Okko



Uriah



Wanda

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ACCOUNT NUMBER _____

EXP. _____

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SIGNATURE _____

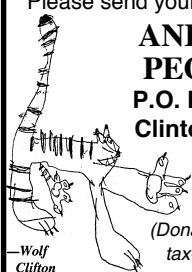
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Oslo Fashion Week bans fur (from page 1)

the fur industry nor the government cares. We have some power to make the government rethink their subsidy policy, and hopefully once the industry is no longer profitable it will cease to exist.

“For this reason,” Vasbotten said, “we are banning fur from Oslo Fashion Week. We do not need an industry where animals are raised in conditions where they suffer. We have chosen not to be more specific, because we are aware of so many other extreme conditions and tragic actions that are part of the supply chain in the fashion business. It’s natural for us to start to clean up in our small industry here in Norway,” Vasbotten finished, “and hopefully we can inspire others to do the same in their country, no matter what problems they may be facing.”

While Norway is no longer among the world leaders in ranched fur production, for decades it was. The ranched fur industry became established in Scandinavia through the economic success of the first Oslo fur auction in 1932. Oslo Fur Auctions Inc., marketing fur globally with Swedish and Finn producers through the Saga consortium, is still regarded as the global data-keeper for the industry.

About 1,800 Norwegian fur farms pelted 720,000 foxes and more than 300,000 mink per year in the late 1980s. Norwegian fox production dropped to 585,000 by 1995, when a botulism outbreak killed about 150,000 foxes, but this was still nearly 20% of the world total. Since then, the Norwegian fox industry has crashed, with only about 500 to

700 fur farmers remaining in business, but Norwegian mink production soared to 680,000 as recently as 2007, tapering to 600,000 in 2009. In both 2007 and 2009 this was about 1.3% of the global total.

Neighboring Denmark, producing about 12 million mink pelts per year, still accounts for about a third of world ranched mink, rivaled only by China. China was briefly first, but in recent years has cut back from output of about 18 million mink pelts per year at peak to about nine million now.

“We believe that fur is a central part of fashion and we have no plans to ban fur,” Copenhagen Fashion Week chief executive Eva Kruse told the “green fashion” web site *Ecouterre*.

World Society for the Protection of Animals investigator Victor Watkins produced perhaps the first major exposé of conditions on Scandinavian fur farms in August 1983, including reports from Norway, but anti-fur activism in Norway was slow to kindle. It finally did in 2006, after *The Independent* newspaper, of London, published findings from Norwegian fur farms gathered by a four-member investigative team led by former WSPA publicist Jonathan Owen.

“The conditions in which the animals lived before they were gassed, strangled or electrocuted were not pleasant,” Owen wrote. “Their cages were tiny—about 18 by 40 inches—and did not have any bedding material, just an open mesh bottom. Some of them had up to four animals in each one, mad-

dening for animals such as mink, who are highly territorial. Mink in the wild like to roam along waterways, something they are unable to do within the confines of a cage. The floor below each row of cages was piled with excrement, up to half a yard deep in places. Cages were covered in old food and fur and the corrugated iron roof was rusting and full of holes.

“The smell inside was nothing like a normal farm smell, bad enough to induce gagging. All around was the sound of mink biting on the bars of their cages, the same cages shaking. Other animals jumped around, repeating the same movements over and over again,” Owen wrote.

The Norwegian organization Network For Animal Freedom in 2008 “inspected more than 100 randomly chosen fur farms in every county where such farms exist, covering over 20 percent of the fur farms in Norway,” the activists reported.

“We found violations and indefensible conditions on all of the farms. The hygienic conditions were miserable...Dead animals in the cages and carcasses dumped right outside of the farms were not unusual. The animals showed clear signs of stress, and at times an extreme fear of human beings. Too small cages, broken cage mesh, and lack of protection against weather and wind were usual sights. In addition, almost every farm we visited was violating fire safety regulations and environmental regulations,” the Network for Animal Freedom found.



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“The Network For Animal Freedom has filed police reports against each of the inspected farms,” the organization said. “We demand that the Norwegian Food Safety Authority investigate the entire industry. Our inspections show that fur farming is animal abuse, whether or not regulations are met,” the Network for Animal Freedom concluded.

The Network For Animal Freedom findings were aired on Norwegian and Finn television. Norwegian Minister of Food and Agriculture Lars Peder Brekk warned the industry that it risked losing political support.

The absence of fur from display at Oslo Fashion Week in February 2011 signifies that fur may already have lost considerable mainstream Norwegian cultural support.

—Merritt Clifton



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Anti-rabies Philippine state governor speaks out against eating dogs

Iloilo, The Philippines—“Let us learn to be responsible dog owners and once and for all, let us avoid eating dog meat,” pleaded Iloilo provincial governor Arthur Defensor Sr. through the *Panay News* after the January 8, 2011 rabies death of a 38-year-old mother of two.

The dead woman and her sister were bitten by a rabid puppy on June 22, 2010. The sister and three other family members received post-exposure vaccination, but the dead woman refused the treatment.

Allocating a million pesos to stock clinics with post-exposure vaccine, Defensor stressed that the Iloilo government will provide free rabies prevention treatment to anyone who needs it.

The possible association of the Iloilo case with eating dogs was unclear. However, rabies transmission in connection with eating or preparing dog meat, once believed to be rare, has within the past five years been documented in two cases in the the Philippines and two in Vietnam, and is believed to have occurred in China and Nigeria.

As the means by which rabies victims become infected is often unknown, while the regions where dogs are most often eaten coincide with the regions with the most human rabies deaths, there is growing medical awareness that eating dogs may be a major unrecognized vector for rabies.

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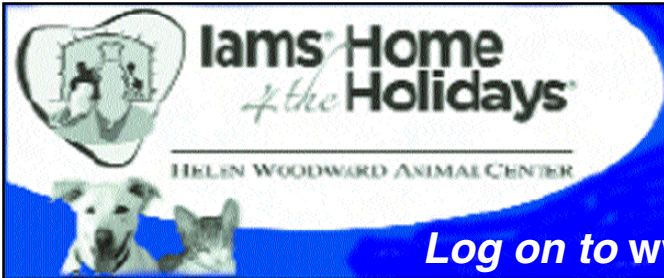
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Obama signs the Shark Conservation Act, meant to stop killing sharks just for fins

WASHINGTON D.C. – U.S. President Barack Obama on January 4, 2011 endorsed into law the Shark Conservation Act, passed unanimously by both the Senate and the House of Representatives during the last days of the 111th Congress.

“The legislation requires that sharks be landed with their fins still naturally attached, the only sure way to enforce a ban on finning,” summarized Humane Society Legislative Fund president Mike Markarian.

Finning is the practice of killing sharks just for their fins and dumping the rest of each dead or dying shark.

The Shark Conservation Act will also “close a loophole in the current law that allowed vessels to transport fins obtained illegally as long as the sharks were not finned aboard that vessel,” Markarian added. “Up to 73 million sharks are killed [for fins] each year—a major cause of declines in shark populations,” Markarian said.

The chief market for shark fins is for use in shark fin soup, served at formal din-

ners, especially wedding banquets, in the more affluent parts of China and other nations with large ethnic Chinese populations.

“In 2000,” recalled the Animal Welfare Institute in a prepared statement, “President Bill Clinton signed the Shark Finning Prohibition Act, making it unlawful to possess a shark fin in U.S. waters without a corresponding carcass.” When that proved difficult to enforce, AWI said, “the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration issued regulations in 2008 mandating that sharks must be landed with fins attached in the Atlantic, Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico, but not the Pacific. The Shark Conservation Act extends this requirement to all U.S. waters.”

But AWI noted that “The version of the bill that passed includes an exemption for smooth dogfish sharks, for which a small fishery exists in North Carolina, primarily targeting the fish for meat. The exemption will allow these few fishers to continue to separate fins of this species from carcasses at sea to conserve space on their boats. These fishers

will be responsible for demonstrating that the fins on their boat belong to the carcasses.”

“Shark finning has continued because the fins fetch a far higher price than the meat,” elaborated *Washington Post* staff writer Juliet Eilperin.

The Shark Conservation Act was blocked in the Senate for more than two months by Oklahoma Republican Tom Coburn, “on the grounds that implementing it would cost taxpayers money,” wrote Eilperin. “The bill sponsors offset the measure’s five-year, \$5 million cost by cutting that amount from a federal fisheries grant program over the next two years.”

The 2000 Shark Finning Prohibition Act was credited by Pew Environment Group global shark conservation director Matt Rand with introducing a 93% decline in the average numbers of sharks landed in the U.S. per year—but the actual catch may have been much larger, due to transfers of fins to foreign vessels while still at sea.

Recalled Shaun Tandon of *Agence*

France-Presse, “In 2002, the U.S. Coast Guard seized a Hong Kong-chartered, Hawaii-registered ship that was hauling nearly 65,000 pounds of just fins—meaning tens of thousands of sharks died.”

Hawaii state senator Clayton Hee in May 2010 won passage of a bill which prohibited possessing, selling, or bartering shark fins within Hawaii and Hawaiian waters.

Similar bills have been adopted in Palau and the Maldives. A parallel bill introduced by Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands house minority leader Diego Bonavente cleared the CNMI house on November 17, but was amended before passage by the CNMI senate on December 9.

Hee flew to Saipan to help lobby for CNMI house ratification of the amended bill, and to ask Governor Benigno Fitial to promptly sign the bill into law when it reaches his desk. “Press secretary Angel Demapan said the governor indicated his ‘full support for the shark finning ban,’” reported Haidee V. Eugenio of the *Saipan Tribune*.

Events

- Feb. 13-15:** *Texas Federation of Animal Care Soc.* conf., San Antonio. Info: <www.txfacs.org>.
- Feb. 22:** *Spay Day 2011.* Info: <spayday@hsi.org>, <www.hsi.org/issues/spay-day/>.
- Feb. 25-26:** *Sex, Gender & Species* conf., Wesleyan U., Middletown, Connecticut. Info: <lgruen@wesleyan.edu>, <kweil@wesleyan.edu>.
- March 15-19:** *Dog Population Management* conf, co/hosted by FAO & WSPA, Banna, Italy. Info: <dog-population-management@fao.org>.
- March 17:** *Stand Up For Horses* comedy night, Los Angeles. Info: 858-945-1371; <www.afterthefinish-line.org>.
- March 31-April 2:** *The SNIP! Summit*, s/n best practices conf. hosted by Humane Alliance, Asheville, NC. Info: 828-252-8804; <www.humanealliance.org>.
- March 31-April 1:** *Thinking About Animals*, Brock Univ., St. Catharines, Ontario. Info: <ac2011@BrockU.CA>.
- May 19-22:** *Intl. Animal Rights Conf.*, Luxembourg. Info: <<http://ar-conference.com/>>.
- May 21:** *Bark In The Park*, St. Louis. Info: Humane Society of Missouri, 314-647-8800; <info@hsmo.org>.
- June 10-14:** *Asia for Animals* conference, Chengdu, China.
- July 15-18:** *Taking Action for Animals* conf., Washington D.C. Info: <www.humanesociety.org>.
- July 16-18:** Conference on wildlife animal welfare issues in Egypt, Cairo. Info: <asherbiny@infinity.com.eg>.
- July 30-31:** *No Kill Conf.*, Washington, D.C. Info: <www.nokilladvocacycenter.org>.

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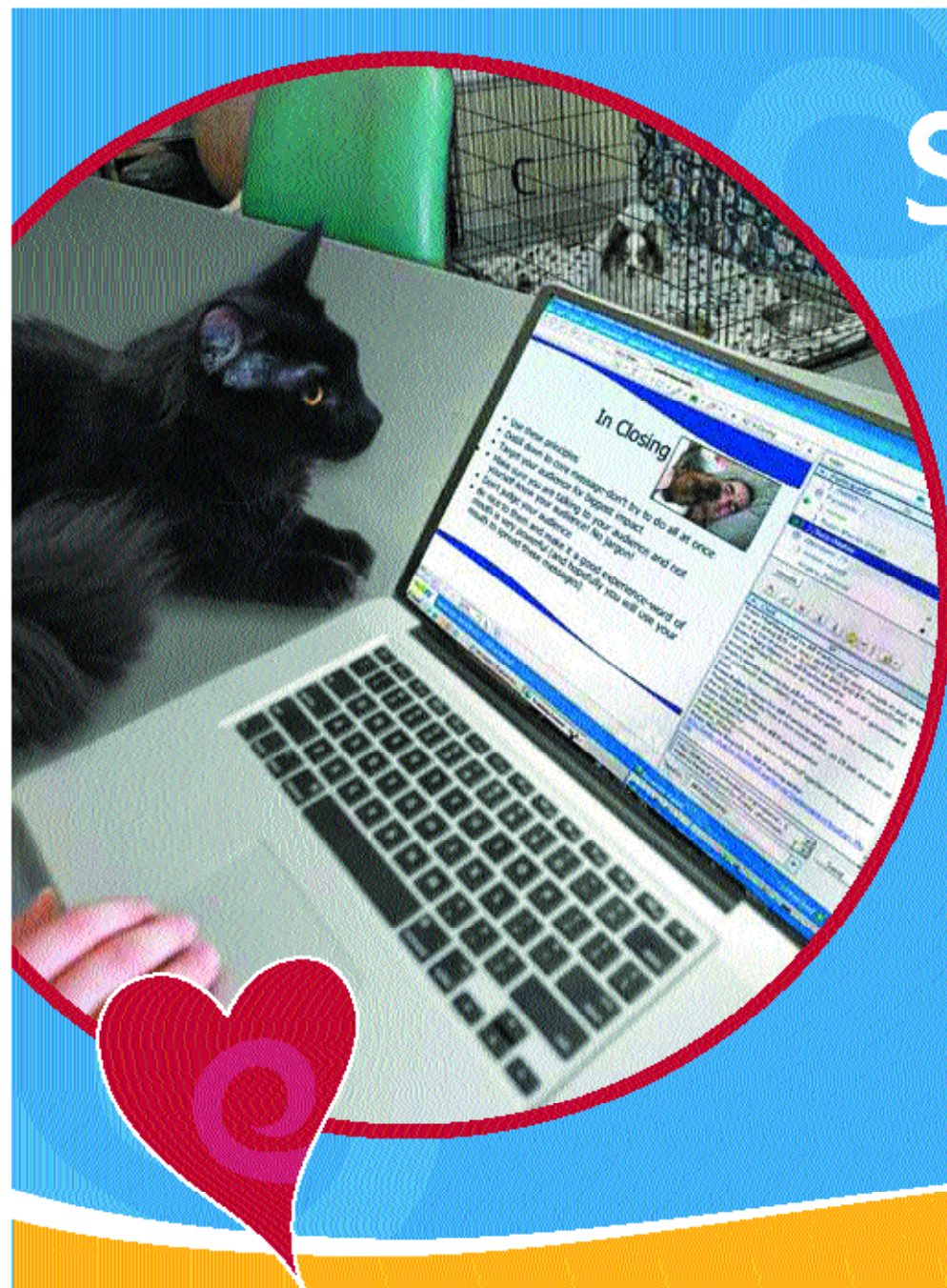
	Baseline Year	Year One	% of Annual Goal
Impounds	19,099	17,846	n/a
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All Adoptions	8,863	9,700	114%
Healthy Deaths	483	0	100%
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New Malaysian Wildlife Conservation Act including anti-cruelty language comes into effect

PETALING JAYA, Malaysia—

The arrival of 2011 in Malaysia brought into full effect the Wildlife Conservation Act, a sweeping update of 30-year-old previous legislation that includes under one heading the corpus of Malaysian law covering almost every aspect of human interaction with wild animals.

Like most national wildlife laws, the Malaysian Wildlife Conservation Act covers hunting, fishing, capturing wildlife, protection of endangered and threatened species, and dealing with dangerous and “nuisance” wildlife. It also includes language prohibiting cruelty to wildlife, including captive wildlife, and establishes basic requirements for zoo management.

Yet to be seen is whether the Malaysian Department of Wildlife & National Parks is capable of enforcing the Wildlife Conservation Act, especially in view of broad exemptions granted to the department itself.

Known in Malaysia by the Malay name Perhilitan, the often politically embattled wildlife department has long blamed the old legislation that the Wildlife Conservation Act replaces for ineffective response to wildlife poaching and trafficking, massacres of wildlife accused of raiding crops, and the failures of substandard zoos to upgrade.

World Wildlife Fund policy coordinator Preetha Sankar told Julia Zappei of Associated Press that the previous penalties for offenses against wildlife were “nothing more than a slap on the wrist.”

Adopted by the Malaysian parliament in July 2010, the Wildlife Conservation Act took full effect after six months of escalating enforcement. Five years after forming a dedicated Wildlife Crime Unit, Perhilitan doubled its wildlife conservation staff, reinforced vigilance at 13 checkpoints along routes believed to be used by traffickers, and established an integrated wildlife law enforcement task force also including the Malaysian military, police, customs, and airport authorities, a Perhilitan spokesperson told Rashvinjeet S. Bedi of the *Star of Malaysia*.

The passage of the Wildlife Conservation Act and ensuing show of force against wildlife crimes followed the June 2010 seizure of 369 radiated tortoises, 47 tomato frogs,

and several chameleons by customs officers at Kuala Lumpur International Airport, who failed to detain the suspected smuggler, and a July 2010 police raid on a stolen car syndicate which recovered 42 stolen cars plus “thousands” of birds, according to media accounts.

The incidents helped to restore the focus of parliamentary debate over the draft Wildlife Conservation Act. The debate at one point featured an elected representative complaining that crop-raiding monkeys were undaunted by old tires he cut to look like snakes. Another elected representative suggested that the monkeys could be captured and taught to play football as a tourist attraction.

Natural resources and environment minister Seri Douglas Uggah Embas responded that his department was studying the possibility of relocating problematic monkeys to an offshore island. He put the Malaysian monkey population at about 740,000.

The exchange came after Malacca state chief minister Mohamad Ali Rustam backed a plan for the Indian firm Vivo Bio Tech to build a laboratory for conducting experiments on monkeys.

Previous natural resources and environment minister Seri Azmi Khalid in August 2007 floated the idea of selling nuisance macaques captured in urban areas to China for laboratory use and human consumption. But Khalid in February 2008 backed away from the scheme amid a storm of protest.

The Lizard King

An early test of the determination of Perhilitan to enforce the Wildlife Conservation Act came on August 26, 2010, just a month after the act cleared parliament, when Kuala Lumpur International Airport police apprehended Anson Wong, 52, of Penang, whose travel bag broke open on a conveyor belt, releasing 95 boa constrictors whom Wong was trying to take to Indonesia.

Wong was no ordinary traveler. Author Bryan Christy in his 2008 exposé book *The Lizard King* identified Wong as “the most important person in the international reptile business.”

Malaysia Animal Rights Society president N. Surendran pointed out to media

that Perhilitan had allowed Wong to operate a reptile trading business in Malaysia even after he was arrested in Mexico City for illegal reptile trafficking in 1998, was extradited to the U.S., and served 71 months in prison for smuggling, conspiracy, money-laundering, and wildlife offenses.

Wong had trafficked in reptiles via the now defunct Bukit Jambul Reptile Sanctuary. “With such a front,” Surendran said, traffickers “can import and export animals and it looks legitimate.”

Further, Surendran observed, Wong was “uncovered by airport security. Perhilitan was only involved in the prosecution. It was not as if Perhilitan conducted a sting operation.”

Wong was initially sentenced to serve six months in prison, but on appeal by Perhilitan the sentence was in November 2010 increased to five years.

Had Wong enjoyed a better relationship with the present Perhilitan senior management, however, and had obtained the proper permits, his case might have had a different outcome. “Notwithstanding anything in this Act, for the purpose of carrying out any conservation activity, the Director General or any officer authorized by him may breed, keep, hunt, import, export, sell or purchase any wildlife,” states the Wildlife Conservation Act. “A ‘conservation activity’ means an activity that relates to the protection, management and sustainable use of wildlife.”

Anti-cruelty clause

Says the anti-cruelty language in the Wildlife Conservation Act, “Save as otherwise provided in this section, any person who a) beats, kicks, infuriates, terrifies, tortures, declaws or defangs any wildlife; b) neglects to supply sufficient food or water to any wildlife which he houses, confines, or breeds; c) keeps, houses, confines or breeds any wildlife in such manner as to cause it unnecessary pain or suffering; d) uses any wildlife for performing or assisting in the performance of any work or labour which by reason of any infirmity, wound, disease or any other incapacity it is unfit to perform; e) uses, provokes or infuriates any wildlife for the purpose

of baiting it or for fighting with any other wildlife or animal, or manages any premises or place for any of these purposes; or f) willfully does or willfully omits to do anything which causes any unnecessary suffering, pain or discomfort to any wildlife, commits an offence,” punishable by a fine of not less than 5,000 ringgit and not more than 50,000 ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both.”

The anti-cruelty language adds that “Any person who provokes or wounds any wildlife which consequently becomes an immediate danger to human life commits an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding 30,000 ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both.”

Exemption

An exemption to the anti-cruelty clause states that, “This section shall not apply to any person who wounds any wildlife in the course of lawfully hunting it under this Act.”

Lawful hunting under the Wildlife Conservation Act excludes snaring: “No person shall possess or keep any snare; or set, place, or use any snare for the purpose of hunting any wildlife.”

But “an owner or occupier of land may, with the written approval of the Director, use birdlime for the good faith destruction of grain-eating birds found damaging or destroying growing cereals during the period when the crop is ripe or ripening.”

In addition, “where any wildlife is causing, or there is reason to believe that it is about to cause, serious damage to crops, vegetables, fruits, growing timber, domestic fowls or domestic animals in the possession of an owner or occupier of land, the owner or occupier or any servant of the owner or occupier or any officer may capture or kill the wildlife after first using reasonable efforts to frighten away the wildlife and failing to do so.” This exemption could provide cover for poaching or capturing any species, if the pretext of preventing a threat to human interests is established first, for instance by baiting the target species into proximity to crops or domestic animals.

Chinese activists object to Canadian seal deal (from 1)

not a dumping ground for Canadian seal products. Chinese consumers should not shoulder the ethical responsibility of paying for the cruel slaughter of seals in Canada,” Gabriel said.

“I don’t believe there is any future for the Canadian sealing industry in China,” said Humane Society of the U.S. sealing spokesperson Rebecca Aldworth, from Montreal. “I’m confident the people of China will reject these products of cruelty just as the rest of the world has.” Aldworth toured China in November 2010, airing video from the 2010 Atlantic Canada seal hunt.

Apart from the humane issues involved, seal meat is reputedly almost inedible for most people. Only seal flippers are routinely eaten in Atlantic Canada, and not by many people.

The January 2011 deal may not actually expand the Chinese market for seal products. Seal penises of Canadian origin have been sold in China for more than 10 years. Department of Fisheries Oceans Canada spokesperson Alain Belle-Isle in January 2010 acknowledged that Canada exported \$1.1 million in seal fats and oil to China in 2009. This was about 10% of the total income of the Atlantic Canada seal hunt.

But the January 2011 agreement may hint that new medicinal products based on seal oil may soon be marketed. Lily Wang, founder of a company called North Atlantic Biopharma, based in St. John, Newfoundland, told media in 2005 that the Guangzeng Pharmaceutical Group of China would invest \$8 million to \$10 million to complete clinical testing of medicines based on seal oil, in exchange for exclusive distribution rights. Wang predicted that the seal oil products could win approval within four years, and would have the potential to double Atlantic Canada seal hunt revenues, then estimated at \$16.5 million per year.

North Atlantic Biopharma received start-up funding in 2001 from the Newfoundland trade ministry and four other government agencies, and continued to receive Canadian government funding at least through 2008.

In Taipei, Taiwan, meanwhile, Associated Press reported that the leading pharmacy retailers Watsons and Cosmed in December 2010 discontinued selling seal oil products after more than 160,000 Taiwanese signed petitions circulated by the Animal Society of Taiwan. Watsons has 230 stores in Taiwan; Cosmed has 110.

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“Summit for the Horse” promotes slaughtering wild horses

LAS VEGAS—Intended to promote horse slaughter in general, and slaughtering wild horses in specific, the Summit for the Horse held in Las Vegas during the first week of January 2011 heard messages from Bureau of Land Management director Bob Abbey and slaughterhouse design consultant Temple Grandin that were not what most of the reportedly sparse audience wanted to hear.

Not more than 200 people converged on the Southpoint Casino to attend the Summit for the Horse, according to a variety of crowd counts. Most counts placed the plenary attendance at 100-150, including 42 speakers.

Speaking for allied animal use industries were National Cattlemen’s Beef Association vice president J.D. Alexander, Masters of Fox Hounds Association executive director Dennis Foster, and Mindy Patterson, who led breeder opposition to Missouri Proposition B, a ballot initiative to increase regulation of puppy breeders that was approved by voters in November 2010.

Horse industry speakers included Dave Catoor, whose company conducts helicopter round-ups of wild horses for the BLM; rodeo stock contractor Ike Sankey, whom the animal advocacy organization SHARK has repeatedly caught on camera in electroshocking incidents; and former U.S. Representative Charles Stenholm, of Texas, who lost his seat in November 2004 and in 2005-2007 prominently lobbied against the closure of the last three U.S. horse slaughterhouses.

AHA for slaughter?

The lone speaker from a prominent humane organization was Tim Amlaw, director of the American Humane Certified program of the American Humane Association, which certifies livestock production methods.

In opposition to the views of other animal advocacy organizations that work on farm animal issues, the AHA has since mid-2010 endorsed slaughtering poultry by decompression, and has endorsed the use of “enriched” battery cages for egg-laying chickens to meet the requirements of the 2008 California ballot initiative which required the phase-out of battery caging.

Amlaw, assessed Suzanne Roy of Wild Horse Preservation, “delivered essentially a sales pitch about what the AHA certification program could do for the horsemeat industry, touting what it had done previously for other meat industries.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE asked AHA chief executive Robin Ganzert how Amlaw’s remarks could be reconciled with the AHA position statement on wild horses. “In 1971,” says the AHA statement, “Congress enacted the Wild Free-Roaming Horses & Burros Act to protect these animals that are viewed by many as the last symbols of the American West. In spite of the law, tens of thousands of wild horses and burros have been removed from public lands. American Humane believes in the full implementation of federal law and calls for regulations, guidelines and scientific formulas to determine forage allocations for the multiple use of the public lands; supports

rational management of public lands which respects the value of wild horses and the interests of all citizens; encourages the establishment of a clear formula to justify the numbers of horses and livestock permitted on the public lands; and opposes attempts to weaken the Wild Horse & Burro Act.”

The Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act, as originally passed, prohibited selling to slaughter any wild horses who were removed from the range, until at least a year after adoption by private individuals. Often violated, the act was amended by a stealth rider introduced by former Montana Senator Conrad Burns as part of a federal appropriation bill, passed without debate just before Thanksgiving 2004. The rider directed the BLM to sell “Any excess animal or the remains of an excess animal...if the excess animal is more than 10 years of age, or the excess animal has been offered unsuccessfully for adoption at least three times...without limitation...including through auction to the highest bidder, at local sale yards, or other convenient livestock selling facilities.”

Replied Ganzert, “We stand behind our position statements, and there was no conflict in Tim’s panel presentation,” but 10 days later Ganzert had still not provided a formal statement that she had said would follow.

“Better options”

Said BLM director Abbey, “I want to be clear about one thing. [Interior] Secretary [Ken] Salazar and I have consistently stated since taking on our current roles that we do not support, nor are we willing to incorporate into any wild horse or burro strategy that we pursue, the euthanasia of healthy wild horses and the unlimited sale of older horses [for slaughter], even though these legal authorities exist under the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971, as amended. Having taken the position that slaughter is not a viable or acceptable management option for America’s wild horses or burros which are removed from BLM managed land, then we must be willing to pursue other alternatives. Wild horses are part of our nation’s heritage, and need to be protected,” Abbey affirmed. “We are not entertaining the use of slaughterhouses or selling horses for slaughter. I’m not going to speak to private horses or livestock, but as it relates to wild horses, we believe that there are better options available to us.

“There are a lot of people who believe we have ulterior motives in the actions we are taking,” Abbey continued, denouncing speculation that intensified wild horse round-ups in 2010-2011 have been done in anticipation of selling horses to slaughter. “We are not interested in eliminating wild horses from these lands. Some scrutiny of this program has crossed the line of fair criticism,” Abbey asserted. Abbey described BLM tests of wild horse contraception underway in connection with 11 gathers of wild horses in Nevada, Idaho and Utah. Abbey also praised the efforts of Madeleine Pickens, wife of oil tycoon T. Boone Pickens, to create a sanctuary in rural Nevada that could keep large numbers of wild horses in semi-natural habitat.

Currently the BLM is holding about 38,000 wild horses at locations in Kansas, Oklahoma and South Dakota. About 38,365 remain on public land in 10 western states.

Summit for the Horse organizer Sue Wallis, a Republican state representative from

Recluse, Wyoming, told media in early 2010 that she was working with Temple Grandin to design a horse slaughterhouse to be located in Wyoming. Responded Grandin, to Robert Arnson of *The Western Producer*, “We have done no design work. All we did is, we had one lunch meeting with her [Sue Wallis]. Mark, my assistant, went up and looked at one place where they were thinking of building the plant and it was a junkyard. We have designed nothing at this point.”

Yet Grandin was among the Summit for the Horse headliners, somewhat to the surprise of horse advocates who knew her previous statements about horse slaughter.

Wrote Animal Law Coalition founder Laura Allen, “Prior to the summit, Dr. Grandin told us, ‘I have told Sue Wallis that I want no involvement in her business dealings.’ She described herself as ‘neutral’ on the issue of whether to ban horse slaughter for human consumption,” explaining that her concerns have to do with the cruelty of horse slaughter as often practiced in Mexico, and the difficulty of preventing horse exports to Mexico.

At the summit, Grandin recited a list of possible ways of dealing with surplus horses, wild or domestic. She then described the requirements she believes would be necessary to humanely slaughter horses, which—as at least one member of the audience reportedly objected—would make building a horse slaughterhouse prohibitively expensive relative to the limited economic opportunities for horse slaughter. “In effect,” summarized Allen, “the solutions relayed by Grandin are to stop the overbreeding, and find ways to care for horses in need.”

Altercation

“Was Wallis listening to the high standards for humane treatment that Grandin would impose on her proposed slaughter facility, should it ever be legally and otherwise operational? Unlikely,” Allen continued, “as Wallis appears to have been busy shoving reporter and horse advocate Simone Netherlands out of the conference room. The police were called and Netherlands was treated for injuries at a local hospital.”

Confirmed Steven Long of the Houston publication *Horseback Online*, “Wallis will likely face a personal injury lawsuit. During a speech by renowned animal behaviorist and slaughter expert Temple Grandin, Wallis allegedly charged a credentialed journalist who says her arm is healing from a horse accident. The arm has nine pins in it put there during orthopedic surgery,” four weeks earlier.

Netherlands attended the Summit for the Horse on behalf of a public broadcasting station in Santa Barbara, California.

“Wallis was apparently angered by statements Netherlands made during a news conference,” wrote Long, where Netherlands “attacked alleged misstatements about horse processing made by Summit organizers and speakers. The comments were aired on a Las Vegas TV newscast.”

Wallis was already having a difficult week. On the eve of the summit, reported Casper *Star-Tribune* capitol bureau correspondent Joan Barron on January 2, Wyoming house speaker Ed Buchanan pledged to “look at an ethics complaint” filed against Wallis by horse advocate Patricia Fazio.

Alleged Fazio in her complaint, “Wallis is on a crusade to return horse slaughter for human consumption to the U.S. I believe she is improperly and even fraudulently using her position as a Wyoming representative to promote and misrepresent the issue to her financial benefit.”

Fazio sent similar complaints about Wallis to ANIMAL PEOPLE in May 2010.

One day earlier, on January 1, Josh Mitchell of the Wyoming *Tribune-Eagle* reported that Wallis’ widely reported plans to open a horse slaughterhouse in Cheyenne had fallen through.

“A horse slaughter plant will not open here, according to the woman proposing the facility,” wrote Michell. “In fact, Sue Wallis said she never planned on opening such a facility here. Wallis said a horse training facility was proposed for Cheyenne. But since she was unable to reach an agreement for use of a piece of property, it won’t open here now. She added that the horse processing facility is expected to open in Platte County, possibly in 2012. The meat from the processed horses could be sold to zoos for food, Wallis said.”

Wallis’ original plan, outlined to Barron of the *Star-Tribune*, was “to set up something like a triage operation for abandoned or unwanted horses,” Barron summarized. “The horses would be screened and provided rehabilitation, training, or slaughter, depending on their condition. Since Wyoming is one of 22 or 23 states that have meat inspection programs, Wallis said, the horses can be slaughtered and used for human consumption in state restaurants or state institutions.”

Wallis in early 2010 won passage of state legislation that could allow the Wyoming Livestock Board to authorize slaughtering stray and abandoned horses for sale “to state institutions or to nonprofit organizations,” but Wyoming Livestock Board director Jim Schwartz told Barron that getting involved in horse slaughter “is not an option, in my opinion. We’ll continue to do what we’ve always done and try to get them sold and find good homes for them,” Schwartz pledged.

Wallis was only one of several would-be horse slaughter entrepreneurs to address the Summit of the Horse. Another was former Montana state representative Ed Butcher. “We want to see horse plants all over the country so you don’t have the hassle of these long hauls,” said Butcher. “We are looking at plants that will probably kill 100 horses a day,” or about half the volume of each of the last three horse slaughterhouses in the U.S., closed in 2007.

Butcher in 2009-2010 promoted a plan to convert an abandoned sugar plant in Hardin, Montana into a horse slaughterhouse, but was thwarted when in March 2010 the Hardin city council prohibited facilities that slaughter more than 25 animals per week from operating within city limits.

The BLM is expected to introduce a new wild horse management policy later in 2011. The new policy was anticipated in late 2010, but a BLM web posting on December 22, 2010 announced a delay, attributed in part to the agency having received more than 9,000 comments from interested organizations and individuals. The National Academy of Sciences, at direction of Congress, in mid-2010 began a two-year assessment of BLM wild horse management, to advise future legislative directions. —Merritt Clifton

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The Watchdog

The Watchdog monitors fundraising, spending, and political activity in the name of animal and habitat protection—both pro and con. His empty bowl stands for all the bowls left empty when some take more than they need.

Ex-lab caretaker hopes to save what remains of Wild Animal Orphanage

SAN ANTONIO—Wild Animal Orphanage is in Chapter 11 bankruptcy, but maybe, Primates Incorporated founder Amy Kerwin hopes, the million dollars worth of real estate, two million dollars worth of facilities, and 160 animals who remain at the 17-year-old sanctuary can be kept within the sanctuary community.

A former laboratory monkey caretaker, recently employed in financial services, Kerwin has for seven years sought to raise funds to start a retirement home for former lab primates, often speaking and writing in opposition to invasive primate research and keeping monkeys as pets. Her attempt to save what can be saved of Wild Animal Orphanage “is actually a team effort of several organizations,” she told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, undertaken “because 160 animals,” of 297 at the sanctuary when the board voted in September

2010 to dissolve, “could not be placed in reputable sanctuaries. The Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries will do the fundraising to purchase the land and run the sanctuary for one year,” Kerwin anticipated. “The International Fund for Animal Welfare has been footing the bill to make sure the animals are properly fed and cared for. The plan is to have Primates Incorporated take over operations,” following the Wild Animal Orphanage dissolution, “but nothing is set in stone yet,” Kerwin stipulated.

The remaining Wild Animal Orphanage animals include 121 macaques, 25 big cats, five HIV-infected chimps, and four wolf hybrids.

Currently the facilities remain under the Wild Animal Orphanage board, headed by Michelle Cryer of San Antonio. Founders Carol and Ron Asvestas were ousted from the

Wildlife Animal Orphanage management in an October 2009 coup d’etat led by their daughter Nicole Garcia, who was herself ousted in April 2010. “There is no plan approved by the court at this time,” Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries executive director Patty Finch told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “I can’t tell you what the court will decide,” Finch said. “Our role has been limited to fundraising, which may expand, and helping interested parties brainstorm possible solutions.”

Carol Asvestas, who lives beside the oldest of the two Wild Animal Orphanage sites near San Antonio, told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that she had concerns about what might result from the Chapter 11 proceedings, but liked the idea that the property might continue to house the remaining animals. Wild Animal Orphanage was still in good shape, Carol Asvestas contended to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**,

when she and her husband were forced out after five years of conflict with board members, volunteers, and former employees.

Kerwin developed her ambition of operating a sanctuary during five years of employment at the Harlow Primate Lab, on the University of Wisconsin at Madison campus. “I assisted with caring for and collecting data from 97 rhesus monkeys involved in three studies,” she wrote in a 2007 essay for the campus newspaper. “I came to question the validity of the research and what I had come to believe was a callous attitude among many of the researchers. I began to think about a way for them to live out their lives in peace. I attended night school to obtain an MBA to learn the things I’d need to know,” leading to the incorporation of Primates Incorporated in 2003, which has so far been little more than a name and a dream.

Montana Large Animal Sanctuary becomes largest-ever sanctuary failure

HOT SPRINGS, Montana—The 400-acre Montana Large Animal Sanctuary, among the largest in the world, once regarded as a showplace, is finishing a 15-year existence as the subject of the largest sanctuary evacuation ever undertaken.

Starting with almost 1,000 animals in urgent need of care and better homes, AniMeals founder Karyn Moltzen, the on-site rescue coordinator, had only 249 of 603 llamas left to place after almost a month of camping on site. Herds of horses, goats, sheep, donkeys, two bison, two camels, and 11 emus were all either moved out to other sanctuaries or were “spoken for,” Moltzen told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

But more than 70 animals died at the Montana Large Animal Sanctuary from malnutrition, exposure, and prolonged lack of other care, Moltzen said, despite the best efforts of volunteers to save them. Hardest-hit were creas, newborn llamas whose emaciated mothers were unable to protect them adequately from the elements before the rescuers brought them all indoors and gave them heat lamps.

“I believe all of the females are pregnant,” Moltzen blogged earlier, “We have babies born every day. We have separated males from females, but there are males still jumping fences. We have gathered all the llamas out of the hills—it took us four days—and have given them some shelter. We hung tarps to break the wind and have bottle-fed babies every four hours through the night. We came up here on December 21, expecting to stay for seven days, putting our holidays on hold, and never left,” Moltzen said.

Spring snowmelt is expected to reveal the remains of animals who died before help arrived. Moltzen told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that neighbors had reported deteriorating conditions at the Montana Large Animal Sanctuary for several years, but local law enforcement did not respond, and word did not reach the outside animal rescue community.

Funded almost entirely by health care executive Susan Rawlings, the Montana Large Animal Sanctuary was cofounded by Brian and Kathryn Warrington, then a couple.

Later divorced, they continued to run the sanctuary together. As they took in growing numbers of animals, they twice relocated to larger premises. But they resisted advice from several directions to diversify their donor base.

ANIMAL PEOPLE warned Kathryn Warrington in 1999 that excessive reliance on a single funder is characteristic of shelters and sanctuaries that deteriorate into hoarder/enabler situations after ill fortune overtakes the founders.

But for years all seemed to be good fortune. As the sanctuary grew, Rawlings moved from Health Net to Cigna to PacificCare Health Systems to Aetna Life & Casualty to WellPoint. Rawlings contributed \$392,500 in 2006, augmented by \$50,000 from the WellPoint Foundation and \$12,500 from the Aetna Foundation, according to IRS Form 990. As recently as 2008, Rawlings contributed \$272,429 and the Wellpoint Foundation gave the sanctuary \$38,763. But then, Rawlings told Vince Devlin of *The Missoulian*, “My boss retired. Her successor wanted his own team.” Leaving WellPoint in April 2008, Rawling in June 2008 became CEO at Leprechaun LLC, at much lower pay.

Rawlings last visited the Montana Large Animal Sanctuary in mid-2008, she told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Rawlings said she had already advised the Warringtons that she would no longer be able to underwrite the sanctuary to the extent that she had. Kathryn Warrington meanwhile developed multiple sclerosis, diagnosed in 2007. “With the animals’ food supply down to three days’ worth,” recounted Devlin of *The Missoulian*, the Warringtons at last sought help.

“The Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries put together an ad hoc team to help resolve the situation, GFAS executive director Patty Finch told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

“I believe I was the first to file a complaint with the sheriff,” Finch added. But six weeks later no one had actually been charged, and it was not clear that anyone would be, despite neglect of hoof care, in particular, that many of the rescuers agreed was the worst they had ever seen.

AniMeals—a small dog-and-cat emergency feeding and rescue organization, with no previous large animal experience—was first to arrive, and was the only outside organization to remain on the premises after a conflict between Brian Warrington and others who publicized the lack of hoof care.

Habitat for Horses founder Jerry Finch [not related to Patty Finch] arrived right behind Montana Horse Sanctuary founder Jane Heath and Montana Animal Care Association president Phyllis Ruana. “The main part of the horses were in a pasture several miles from the actual sanctuary,” Jerry Finch posted to the AniMeals web site. There Jerry Finch, Heath, and Ruana found “Horses with hooves so long that in one case the hoof made a complete circle over itself.” A black pony had a broken hip. “Another horse ran on three legs, the fourth held up because the hoof looked like a spike.”

At the main part of the sanctuary the rescuers found camels and cattle who were almost immobilized by severe foot problems. Veterinarian Charmaine Wright flew in from Park City, Utah, to look after the camels. Heath and Ruana began the evacuation by removing 31 donkeys. Humane Society of the U.S. senior director for wildlife response Dave Pauli, who lives in Billings, Montana, took in a family of cavies. Llama rescuers around the U.S. combined efforts as the Camelid Rescue Committee to look after approximately as many llamas in need of homes as the sum of all others in sanctuary care.

HSUS and the American SPCA contributed some funding to the rescue effort, but most of the rescuers covered their own expenses and hoped for reimbursement after the Montana Large Animal Sanctuary is legally dissolved and the assets are sold. Rawlings estimated that the land and facilities might fetch \$1.2 million. IRS Form 990 filings indicate that about half would go toward paying off the remaining mortgage on the property and outstanding debts for hay and supplies. Rawlings told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that the rest of the proceeds from the sale would be donated to charities of compatible mission, including those involved in the rescue. —Merritt Clifton

New Jersey attorney general files suit seeking to dissolve NJ Horse Angels

NEWARK—New Jersey attorney general Paula T. Dow and Thomas R. Calcagni, acting director of the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs, on December 2, 2010 charged in a civil lawsuit that “Through the Internet, and in particular through Facebook, Sharon Catalano Crumb and a charitable organization known as NJ Horse Angels raised at least \$145,132, purportedly to rescue horses from slaughter between September 2009 and September 2010.

“In contradiction to NJ Horse Angels’ mission,” the complaint states, “some of the charitable contributions paid for Crumb’s gambling; jewelry for Crumb’s unemployed live-in boyfriend Frank Wikoff, a trustee of NJ Horse Angels and a convicted felon; and for Crumb’s own personal horse.”

While representing “to at least one individual that no one associated with NJ Horse Angels, including Crumb, received monetary compensation,” the complaint continues, “Crumb withdrew \$16,490 of the charitable contributions in cash. The charitable contributions also paid for entertainment and phone bills, and cash for

Crumb’s son, currently serving a life sentence at Trenton State Prison, and cash for Crumb’s son’s childhood friend Baron Roesler, a parolee.” Crumb allegedly also raised funds as NJ Horse Angels Rescue, NJ Killpen Horses, Horse Angels of Facebook, Camelot Auction Horse Angels, and The Forgotten Angels, says the lawsuit, building a Facebook list of 4,990 “friends,” who donated through Paypal accounts.

“NJ Horse Angels is a New Jersey nonprofit,” the complaint states, formed in Phillipsburg in February 2010, but “is not registered as a charitable organization with the Attorney General,” as is required to solicit funds from the public. The organization purchased horses from the Camelot Auction Company of Cranbury, New Jersey, according to the complaint, but at times solicited funds to buy horses who had already been bought by others; solicited funds to buy particular horses even after sufficient funds had been raised to buy them; and solicited funds to buy particular horses that were not used to buy those horses.

“In some instances,” the

complaint charges, “Crumb and NJ Horse Angels deleted Facebook posts notifying members that horses had already been bailed [purchased] by other individuals.”

The complaint seeks to permanently enjoin Crumb, Wikoff, and NJ Horse Angels from “directly or indirectly acting as a charitable organization, independent paid fundraiser, or solicitor,” or claiming to operate with a charitable purpose “from or within the State of New Jersey.” The complaint also asks for “joint and several civil monetary penalties” against Crumb, Wikoff, and NJ Horse Angels, and seeks to direct “Crumb, Wikoff, and NJ Horse Angels to restore to any affected person any moneys and real or personal property acquired by means of any practice alleged herein to be unlawful and found to be unlawful.”

Crumb rose to prominence in the horse rescue community as co-organizer of a posthumous fourth birthday party in April 2007 for Barbaro, winner of the 2006 Kentucky Derby, who suffered a shattered hind leg at the start of the Preakness Stakes race a month later. Fans raised more than

\$1.2 million to help fund nearly two dozen surgeries in a seven-month effort to save Barbaro. He was euthanized due to untreatable pain in January 2007. The “Celebration of Barbaro’s Life,” as the April 2007 event was called, was held at the Delaware Park Raceway in Wilmington. Another co-organizer, Angel Acres Horse Haven Rescue president Jo Deibel, of Glenville, Pennsylvania, was among several horse rescue bloggers who began warning donors about Crumb and NJ Horse Angels about a year before the New Jersey attorney general and Division of Consumer Affairs acted.

A Frank Wikoff who would be the same age as Crumb’s NJ Horse Rescue partner was charged with burglary in Phillipsburg in 1986.

Crumb’s son Christopher, “according to the New Jersey

Department of Corrections and archived news reports, is a white supremacist serving a life sentence at Trenton State Prison for beating a disabled black Atlantic City man to death with his own cane in 1993,” wrote Stephen J. Novak of the *Eaton Express-Times*. The victim, Roy Dick, was a 75-year-old known for sweeping sidewalks as a community volunteer; Christopher Crumb was then 20, with a prior conviction for possession of an illegal weapon.

Henry Crumb, Sharon Crumb’s husband and Christopher Crumb’s father, was an Atlantic City bartender who was fatally stabbed by a customer in 2001.

Baron Roesler, the last named alleged beneficiary of funds raised in the name of NJ Horse Angels, was charged in 2006 with allegedly trying to break into a delicatessen.

The 2010 ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report on 155 Animal Charities

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U.S. whaling negotiator hinted to Japan that IRS might pull Sea Shepherd Conservation Society nonprofit status

MADRID—U.S. State Department messages published on January 3, 2011 by WikiLeaks and the leading Spanish newspaper *El Pais* disclose that U.S. diplomats in negotiation with senior Japanese officials entertained the possibility of asking the Internal Revenue Service to revoke the nonprofit status of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society.

The State Department messages also confirm the belief widespread among whale conservationists that current White House policy seeks as a first priority to lower the profile of confrontation with Japan over whaling.

Seeking revocation of the Sea Shepherds’ nonprofit status was discussed as a bargaining ploy from November 2009 through January 2010, according to the diplomatic cables exposed by WikiLeaks and *El Pais*.

John V. Roos, U.S. ambassador to Japan, at direction of U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, tried to persuade Japanese officials to accept a deal whereby Japan would quit hunting whales within the Southern Oceans Whale Sanctuary in exchange for International Whaling Commission authorization to kill whales in Japanese coastal waters. The outline of the deal was proposed at a “Whale Symposium” held in February 2008 by the Pew Charitable Trusts.

“Allowing Japan to continue commercial whaling is unacceptable,” declared U.S. President Barack Obama in March 2009, but Obama subsequently appointed former Pew Institute director of whale conservation Monica Medina to head the U.S. delegation to the International Whaling Commission.

The series of four diplomatic cables began on November 2, 2009 with a dispatch from the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo to Washington D.C., describing a meeting held earlier in the day among U.S. deputy chief of mission James P. Zumwalt and Japanese officials including vice minister for international affairs Shuji Yamada and fisheries agency counselor Joji Morishita.

“Yamada inquired about an investigation into the tax status of the U.S.-based NGO Sea Shepherd Conservation Society and repeated Japan’s request for the U.S. to take action against the organization, which he said created a very dangerous situation on the seas,” the cable reported.

Zumwalt “replied that the U.S. places the highest priority on the safety of vessels and human life at sea, and added that if any violations of U.S. law are discovered, we will take appropriate enforcement action.”

Morishita, the cable continued, “went on to say it would be easier for Japan to make progress in the International Whaling Commission negotiations if the U.S. were to take action against the Sea Shepherds.”

Whaling quotas

Medina participated in a follow-up meeting in Tokyo on November 4, 2009 with Japanese fisheries agency chief Katsuhiro Machida, recounted the second of the cables disclosed by WikiLeaks. Machida “defended Japan’s proposal to base future reductions in numbers [of whales killed] on current catch quotas rather than the actual number of whales taken in past years.” Because the Japanese whaling fleet has not killed nearly as many whales as self-assigned quotas allowed in recent years, basing purported reductions on the quotas instead of the actual whaling toll could enable Japan to claim to be killing fewer whales while killing the same number or more.

Machida “added that Australia’s proposal to phase out research whaling is a non-starter for Japan,” the second cable continued. “He said a successful outcome in the vote on Greenland’s proposal to take humpback whales and action by the U.S. and others on Japan’s complaints against the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society would positively influence Japan’s negotiating position in the future of the IWC process.”

The IWC in June 2010 did allow indigenous hunters in Greenland to kill 27 humpback whales during the next three years. Any humpback whales killed will be subtracted from the quota of more than 200 minke and fin whales also allocated to Greenland.

Another U.S. diplomatic cable sent the same day, describing the same meeting among Medina and Machida, elaborated that “According to Machida, political level consultations on whaling are necessary following the recent change in administration in Japan. However, he cautioned the new Democratic Party of Japan administration shares the same fundamental position on whaling as the outgoing Liberal Democratic Party, including support for the resumption of commercial whaling and continued research whaling.”

Medina responded that the U.S. government “is looking for creative solutions to move the IWC forward, as opposed to fundamental change,” the cable recounted. “She added that the U.S. is committed to finding a solution over the next two to three months [and] said she would advocate for including language on whaling in a summit statement” to be released after a November 13, 2009 meeting between President Obama and Japanese prime minister Nahoto Kan. “The statement would express the desire of both countries to work out remaining differences on whaling,” Medina proposed.

Medina “said given the history of Japan’s research whaling, and the increase in quota numbers in recent years, there is room for Japan to cut from the actual number of whales taken. A symbolic action by Japan, such as agreeing not to take fin whales this year, would be a good indicator to the rest of the IWC of Japan’s commitment to reaching a solution. The U.S. government would then work hard to make sure the European Union and Australia do not block a compromise.”

Machida warned that “a negative outcome in the vote” on the Greenland proposal to kill humpbacks could have negative political consequences for the IWC, and asserted that “violent protests by the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society could limit Japanese flexibility in negotiations over the future of the IWC.”

Machida “said the Netherlands should have primary responsibility for taking action against the Sea Shepherds,” since the current Sea Shepherd flagship is registered in the Netherlands, “but he appreciates the U.S. government initiative to address the group’s tax exempt status,” the cable said.

Machida “said action on the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society would be a major element for Japan in the success of the overall negotiations,” the cable continued. “Medina replied that she hopes to work out differences with the EU on Greenland’s proposal on humpback whales prior to the March 2010 IWC intersessional meeting and include the issue in the overall agreement. Regarding the Sea Shepherds, she said she believes the U.S. government can demonstrate that the group does not deserve tax exempt status based on their aggressive and harmful actions.”

White House wanted deal

A cable from Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s office to the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo on November 14, 2009 described the deal that Clinton hoped to broker with Japan over whaling, as outlined to Japanese officials by Medina.

“In particular,” the cable said. “the governments of Japan and the United States would work towards reaching an understanding regarding a way forward for the International Whaling Commission that would include a meaningful reduction in Japan’s current whaling levels and U.S. support for international approval of sustainable small-type coastal whaling activities off the coast of Japan. In addition, Japan would no longer hunt fin or humpback whales in the Southern Ocean, and the United States would uphold domestic and international laws to ensure safety at sea and encourage other governments to do the same.”

The U.S. Embassy was “at the highest possible level, requested to discuss reform of the IWC” with Japanese secretary of state Tetsuro Fukuyama and other influential political appointees.”

Concluded a list of talking points furnished to the embassy, “We understand that there is an important related issue regarding safety at sea of the Japanese research vessels that must also be addressed.”

The diplomatic cables released by Wikileaks and *El Pais* concluded by describing meetings on January 25 and January 26, 2010 among U.S. ambassador John V. Roos, Fukuyama, and Japan fisheries agency deputy director general Kazuhito Yamashita.

Roos asked Fukuyama and Yamashita “to press Iceland to lower its proposed quota for whaling in order to facilitate an overall agreement on whaling,” the last cable said. “Both Fukuyama and Yamashita said the government of Japan is reluctant to take such action. Fukuyama cited a lack of desire to raise the profile of whaling to the political level, while Yamashita said Japan could not use trade measures to stop the import of whale meat from Finland.

Fukuyama expressed concern about creating a domestic political problem for the ruling Democratic Party of Japan.

Roos, said the cable, “replied that Iceland’s proposed take of fin whales is predicated on exporting to Japan,

WikiLeaks show Australia favored Japanese story of *Ady Gil* sinking

MELBOURNE—“Embassy cables, obtained by WikiLeaks and provided exclusively to *The Age*,” show that Australian diplomats quickly defended the Japanese whalers whose ship *Shonan Maru* #2 cut the bow off the high-speed anti-whaling vessel *Ady Gil* on January 6, 2010, reported Philip Dorling of the *Melbourne Age* on January 8, 2011.

The aft portion of the *Ady Gil* was towed for two days by the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society vessel *Bob Barker*, but was eventually scuttled.

“An initial report by the U.S. embassy on the day of the collision noted that while there were no reported casualties, the incident was ‘a major escalation of the confrontation over whaling in the Southern Ocean’ that would ‘increase public and opposition pressure on the [Australian] government to more actively confront Japan,’” Dorling wrote.

“Against the backdrop of the [Australian] government’s efforts to reach a settlement with Japan that would allow a limited continuation of whaling, the U.S. embassy said that ‘if Japan is at fault, [the incident] will further chill Australia’s diplomatic engagement on whaling,’” Dorling continued. “The embassy cables also show that New Zealand was at odds with Australia in its initial assessment of the collision. New Zealand Foreign Ministry officials told the US embassy in Wellington that it was not clear which vessel was to blame for the incident. However, Paula Watt, director of Foreign Affairs’ marine environment section, told the U.S. embassy that while a final determination of fault would be made by maritime safety authorities, she was confident the Japanese would ‘come away clean.’”

and its catch quota is far in excess of what the Japanese market could absorb.”

The next day, “Turning to harassment of the Japanese whaling fleet by the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, Yamashita said the Sea Shepherd actions have kept the fleet from reaching its quota the last few years,” the cable reported. “Yamashita said the government of Japan would come under pressure domestically if Sea Shepherd harassment continues to keep Japanese whalers from filling their quota after an agreement on reduced numbers is reached within the IWC.”

Roos “said the U.S. government is concerned about the safety of life at sea and is looking at the activity of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society.”

Watson responds

“The Sea Shepherd Conservation Society has named this year’s campaign Operation No Compromise precisely because of this deal that the U.S. and New Zealand were trying to make with Japan, supported by Greenpeace and the World Wildlife Fund,” Sea Shepherd founder Paul Watson told *El Pais*. “The trade-off was a reduction of the Southern Ocean kill quota in return for legalizing Japanese whaling in the North Pacific. Sea Shepherd had already reduced the kill quotas for the previous four years; therefore, nothing would be achieved with such a compromise.

“The attempt to compromise with Japan failed” at the 2010 International Whaling Commission meetings, Watson noted. “The U.S. and Japan’s proposal was voted down by the majority led by Australia, the European Union, and the Latin American members.”

“The U.S. government may well have looked into Sea Shepherd’s activities,” Watson continued, “and if they did, they obviously did not find any irregularities or unlawful activities, because Sea Shepherd was never contacted by any U.S. government official in connection with this matter.

“We have had our tax status since 1981,” Watson later told Associated Press, “and we have done nothing different since then to cause the IRS to change that.

“For Sea Shepherd,” Watson concluded, “the most important part of this document is the declaration by Japan that Sea Shepherd has been responsible for the whaling fleet not reaching their quotas for the last few years.”

Three Sea Shepherd vessels—the *Steve Irwin*, the *Bob Barker*, and the high-speed *Gojira*—had through January 6, 2011 kept the Japanese fleet from killing any whales during the first month of their self-assigned 2010-2011 whaling season, Watson said. “The entire Japanese whaling fleet is on the run, and when they are running they are not killing whales. Sea Shepherd’s ships are chasing the slower factory ship the *Nisshin Maru*, while the faster Japanese harpoon vessels are chasing after Sea Shepherd’s fleet,” Watson summarized.

—by Merritt Clifton, with research by Shubhobroto Ghosh

Spanish broadcasting agency banishes bullfights to protect children (from 1)

when children are likely to be watching.

“Children can view violence against animals with anxiety and we must therefore avoid it by all means,” Heckle translated.

The RTVE television network debuted in 1948 by nationally broadcasting a bullfight in Madrid. “At times of political tension the regime of rightwing dictator General Francisco Franco (1939-1975) reputedly programmed bullfights against protests,” on the theory that people would stay home to watch the bullfights instead of joining the protesters, recalled Gilles Tremlett of *The Independent*.

But RTVE quit airing live bullfights in 2007, “out of concern that the deadly duel between matador and beast is too violent for children,” reported Daniel Woolls of Associated Press. A late-night program for bullfighting enthusiasts broadcast pre-taped highlights of bullfights for another two years.

“Of the hundreds of bullfights held during the March-October season,” noted Woolls, “state-run TV only tended to broadcast about a dozen. Pay TV channels and stations owned by regional governments are full of live bullfights.” But RTVE drew far more viewers.

Bullfighting fell into further disfavor with RTVE about six months later, on September 13, 2007, when a female reporter and a videographer documented a traditional public bullfighting event at Tordesillas, Castilla y León, in northern Spain. As a mob, many on horseback, chased, speared, and eventually killed the bull, other participants turned on the RTVE crew. Video showing the the mob beating the female reporter aired live until the mob destroyed the videographer’s camera.

In neighboring Portugal, a Lisbon court on May 30, 2008 granted the activist organization ANIMAL an injunction prohibit-

ing the Portuguese state-owned television station RTP from broadcasting bullfights “before 10.30 p.m. and without displaying a sign identifying the program as violent and capable of negatively influencing the personality development of children and teen-agers,” then-ANIMAL president Miguel Moutinho told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

Presenting as witnesses two clinical psychologists, a biologist, and a university professor of ethology, ANIMAL convinced the court that bullfighting broadcasts in prime time violate Portuguese law governing what may be aired when young people are likely to be watching.

The RTVE turn away from broadcasting bullfights and the Portuguese injunction both appeared to have ripple effects. With decreased television exposure, the number of bullfights held in Spain reportedly fell 30% in

2009. Spanish newspapers reported in February 2010 that Chinese officials had scuttled a plan by matador Manolo Sanchez to build a 7,000-seat bull ring in the Beijing suburb of Huairou.

The Catalan provincial legislature in July 2010 voted to ban bullfighting after January 1, 2012. The Catalan legislature in August 2010 retreated somewhat by specifically authorizing several non-fatal abuses of bulls traditionally practiced at village festivals, but the Spanish Senate in October 2010 rejected a motion to seek to have bullfighting listed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as part of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Nicaraguan legislators cited the Catalan and Spanish Senate actions in September 2010, voting 74-5 to outlaw both bull fights and bull-chasing events.

YES! I'M AN ANIMAL PERSON!



—Wolf Clifton

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Progress against public bullfighting in Tamil Nadu but not in Uttarakhand

CHENNAI, DEHRUDUN—The first weekend of 2011 Pongal harvest festivals in Tamil Nadu, India, brought a drop in reported deaths and injuries in *jallikattu*, the predominant Indian form of participatory bull-fighting—but chiefly because new rules discouraged many communities from hosting *jallikattu*. Relative to the unrestrained mayhem at Bunkhal village in Uttarakhand state a month earlier, that was major progress.

Where *jallikattu* proceeded, deaths and injuries continued, despite enforcement of the new rules by the Animal Welfare Board of India at direction of the Supreme Court of India. Injuries to bulls are seldom tabulated, but may be inferred from the counts of human deaths and injuries, chiefly suffered in attempts to tackle bulls.

Tamil Nadu media reported two human deaths and 21 injuries at Avaniapuram on January 14, one human death and 68 injuries at Palamedu two days later, and 72 human injuries at Alanganullur on January 17, half again more than at Alangunullar in 2010.

The 2011 Alanganullur *jallikattu* was stopped by officials for having become too violent before all the bulls were released. Participants then stoned police, injuring 12. The police responded by clubbing at least 40 people in two baton charges.

The object of Tamil Nadu-style *jallikattu* is for a participant to untie a prize strung between the horns of a bull. The bull is pursued through city streets by a mob usually numbering in the hundreds, who typically wrestle the bull to the ground and seize the prize after repeated attempts.

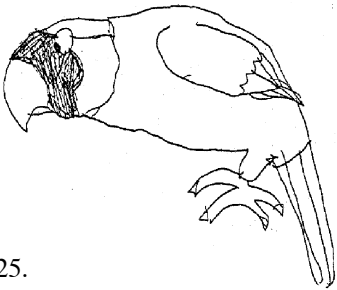
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Major Pongal festivals often include the release of hundreds of bulls, one after another. Reports of the number of bulls released at Alanganullur varied from 335 to 577.

The Supreme Court of India in January 2009 reaffirmed a July 2007 ruling that *jallikattu* constitutes cruelty to animals, and that *jallikattu* held under a limited exemption granted in January 2008 did not meet the Supreme Court-imposed condition that harm to the bulls must be prevented. The Supreme Court acted after 21 people were killed and at least 1,614 were injured in January 2009 *jallikattu*, four years after 13 people were killed and 350 injured in a single weekend. New restrictions introduced in response to the Supreme Court verdict reduced the number of *jallikattu*, cutting the 2010 toll in Tamil Nadu to six people killed, 442 injured.

The current rules for *jallikattu* require organizers to obtain permits a month in advance. *Jallikattu* sites must be fenced, with spectator galleries certified as safe a week in advance by the local public works department. Deposits are required against the possible costs of deaths and injuries. Participants must be at least 21 years old and must wear uniforms excluding the color white. The bulls must be certified as fit by government veterinarians, and must have photo identification. The bulls must not be tranquilized or tormented.

Practiced by the Indus Valley culture as long as 9,000 years ago, participatory bull-fighting is combined with sacrifice at Bunkhal village, near Dehrudun in Uttarakhand state, in the Indian far north.

Responding to a report that 3,200 buffalo and goats were killed in December 2009 at a rock pile locally honored as a temple to the goddess Aradhya Devi, People for Animals/Uttarakhand on December 1, 2010 won a Dehrudun High Court order forbidding public animal killing and dumping carcasses.

Arriving to observe on the night of December 10th, PfA/Uttarakhand secretary Gauri Maulekhi e-mailed to ANIMAL PEOPLE, “We were reassured to find hundreds of police,” but “They had no instructions to act. They could only advise politely and not use any kind of force.” A main road was barricaded, but “The traditional routes around the temple hill were left unguarded. Drugged or drunken men, women, and children streamed in. There was a crowd of 30 to 50 people with each animal. Each person carried a weapon.”

Despite the efforts of PfA Uttarakhand members, “The mob took over and the first buffalo was hacked by an ecstatic crowd,” Maulekhi wrote. “Girls danced seductively in front of the dying bulls. Women bathed their children in blood. Children were made to sit on a wall so that they get a clear view of the killing. Young men chased the buffalo,” before disabling them with swords.

PfA/Uttarakhand member Pankaj Pokhriyal videotaped much of the massacre, later posting video excerpts to web sites.

“A woman nearby declared the Devi alive in her and sunk her teeth in the neck of a living lamb. A man took the severed head of a goat and drank blood from it,” Maulekhi continued. “Some children showed exemplary courage by shouting” against the killing, but

“were beaten with sticks by the drunken devotees and their clothes were torn in front of 20 policemen. When the children asked for help, the policemen told them to go to their superior officer and complain.” The superior officer was nowhere to be found.

“At least 50 buffalo bulls and 450 goats died,” Maulekhi finished. “The police sat like dead bodies. Their commanders will now have to answer in court,” where Pokriyal’s videotapes will be introduced as evidence of failure to enforce the Dehrudun High Court order.

Judges allow cockfights in violation of Indian law

CHENNAI—Disregarding national law prohibiting animal fights, Madras High Court Justices N. Paul Vasanthkumar and R. Subbiah on January 12, 2011 directed public officials to allow cockfights in Santhapadi and Modakoor Melbegam villages as part of religious rites commemorating Pongal.

“That animal fights are banned under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act was probably not brought to the attention of the learned judge. This verdict is being appealed,” Animal Welfare Board of India member Chinny Krishna told ANIMAL PEOPLE.

Despite the court order, police elsewhere in Tamil Nadu and in Andhra Pradesh states raided at least six cockfights during the first two days of Pongal, making 42 arrests and seizing 25 vehicles.

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The Domestic Cat: *Bird Killer, Mouser and Destroyer of Wild Life; Means of Utilizing and Controlling It* by Edward Howe Forbush

Commonwealth of Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture, 1916. [Free 112-page download from <http://books.google.com/books>.]



The November/December 2010 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** noted on page one that the American Bird Conservancy had on December 1, 2010 issued a media release extensively praising what publicist Robert Johns termed “a new peer-reviewed report titled, *Feral Cats & Their Management* from the University of Nebraska—Lincoln,” which advocated killing feral cats.

“The report began in an undergraduate wildlife management class,” revealed Associated Press writer Margery A. Beck, “with students writing reports on feral cats based on existing research. The students’ professor and other UNL researchers then compiled the report from the students’ work.”

UNL faculty member Stephen Vantassel, listed as a co-author, told Beck that “the report was written for public consumption and wasn’t submitted to any science journal.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE lacked the time before going to press in December 2010 to confirm a hunch that *Feral Cats & Their Management* is little more than a paraphrased and condensed update of the 1916 tract *The Domestic Cat: Bird Killer, Mouser & Destroyer of Wild Life; Means of Utilizing and Controlling It*, authored by then-Massachusetts state ornithologist Edward Howe Forbush. The Forbush tract furnished the “scientific” basis for more than half a century of concerted efforts by hunters and birders to add cats to state lists of legally hunted species. In recent decades Forbush provided the template for the arguments of birders against the introduction of neuter/return feral cat control. Reprints of *The Domestic Cat: Bird Killer, Mouser & Destroyer of Wild Life* have appeared from antiquarian publishers at least twice in the past five years, while the original is easily accessible online.

Downloading and re-reading *The Domestic Cat: Bird Killer, Mouser & Destroyer of Wild Life*, after Humane Society of the U.S. senior vice president Andrew Rowan forwarded the link, confirmed that the resemblance between the University of Nebraska paper and the Forbush work follow almost identical outlines from beginning to end, making similar allegations, arriving at the same recommendations in closely parallel language.

The major structural difference is that about half of the Forbush tract consisted of anecdotal testimony from more than 200 individual correspondents that cats kill birds. Many of the letters that Forbush quoted came from hunters who were themselves shooting birds, often of small species who are no longer legally hunted, when they observed cats pursuing some of the same prey.

Feral Cats & Their Management includes no first-hand testimony. The authors of *Feral Cats & Their Management* plugged in references to more recent studies than those Forbush cited, but in support of essentially the same claims, including that cats devastate populations of birds who would otherwise be hunted.

The *Feral Cats & Their Management* authors do not appear to have paid a great deal of attention to context or accuracy. Forbush by contrast presented enough context to discredit many of his own contentions. Like the *Feral Cats & Their Management* authors, for example, Forbush projected his estimates of cat predation on birds from outlandishly high claims about feline fecundity—but Forbush showed how he derived this numbers. “Cats are known to have from two to four broods yearly,” Forbush asserted, “with from five to nine in each brood...Hence the necessity for checking such increase promptly by killing all superfluous kittens soon after birth.”

In actuality, in Forbush’s time as now, standard references credited cats with raising at most two litters per year, birthing five to nine kittens in total, only about half of whom survive weaning.

Forbush lauded the Animal Rescue League of Boston and the American SPCA for killing tens of thousands of cats,

presenting their data, but said little about what the data actually showed. The ASPCA, for example, killed 51,000 cats in a concerted effort to purge feral cats from “the tenement district on the east side” in 1911. This did not succeed. Except in 1911, the Animal Rescue League and ASPCA numbers appeared to reflect relatively stable cat populations, which might even have been in decline as the advent of the automobile reduced the numbers of stables—and rodent and cat habitat—in their respective cities.

“Dr. Frank M. Chapman of the American Museum of Natural History believes that there are not less than 25,000,000 cats in the United States,” Forbush noted. This number is credible, coinciding reasonably well with the findings of National Family Opinion founders Howard and Clara Trumbull in studies done in 1927, 1937, and 1947-1950, which they published under the pseudonym John Marbanks.

Also credible was Forbush’s own observation that free-roaming cats kill on average about 10 birds per year. Parallel to this, Forbush offered data collected by Walt F. McMahon, a colleague whose focus was on discovering more efficient ways to exterminate cats. McMahon found in 1914 that among 559 cats kept by 271 people in seven eastern Massachusetts cities, 229 were known to sometimes kill birds. Among those cats, 47 were known to have killed 534 birds in the preceding year: 11.3 apiece. All but disregarding his own data, however, and the greater part of McMahon’s data, Forbush dwelt on the claims of 15 people that their cats killed 20.4 birds per month, and the claims of six people that their cats killed about 50 birds per year.

Context of the times

Much of Forbush’s antipathy toward cats might be ascribed to the context of the times. For example, more than 50 years before the studies emerged that inspired Rachel Carson to write *Silent Spring*, Forbush conducted a three-year study of the effects of pesticide spraying on birds. But Forbush was handicapped by lack of knowledge about the sub-lethal neurological effects of pesticides, and a lack of technology capable of detecting the very small amounts of pesticides that can induce neurological harm. Among 60 birds found dead under fruit trees that had been sprayed with lead arsenate, “Traces of lead and arsenic were found in two only,” Forbush wrote. “Others met death in various ways, such as flying against wires or buildings,” which today would be recognized as probable effects of pesticide intoxication. “One had been shot; but 19 showed marks of the teeth and claws of cats,” observed Forbush, never considering that the mostly air-feeding insectivorous birds commonly found in orchards during spraying season might never have descended within reach of cats had their ability to fly not been impaired.

Born in 1858, Forbush became curator of ornithology for the Worcester Natural History Society at age 16. The Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture hired him in 1893 to identify whether bird species were good or bad for farmers. He served as state ornithologist from 1908 until his death in 1929. His life coincided with the era in which New England wildlife was more depleted than at any time since. Logging, ploughing, damming, and unrestrained development depleted the forest cover, the grasslands, and the rivers. Precocious as Forbush was in his birding, which then was done chiefly with a shotgun, predatory mammals, fur-bearers, and most wild species considered edible had already been extirpated from most of Massachusetts before he had much chance to see or kill them.

The loss of native predators and fur-bearers enabled feral cats to expand into some habitat that they could no longer hold after the arrival of coyotes and the collapse of the market for trapped fox fur, long after Forbush died. But many of the accounts of alleged cat predation that Forbush quoted from his

correspondents appear to describe instead the behavior of other species, including pine marten, also called “fisher cats,” a remnant few of whom apparently persisted despite being so rare as to be misrecognized when seen.

Cats may hunt newly hatched chickens, as Forbush charged, but they do not kill them by the hundreds, as some of his correspondents claimed, if adult hens are present to defend the chicks. Cats rarely kill full-grown poultry of any sort, let alone make a living on turkeys, as one writer asserted. Very few cats are in the 20-plus-pound size range that the purported chicken and turkey killers proved to be, when shot or trapped; but this is the normal size range of bobcats.

Forbush mentions claims that cats were often trapped in northern Maine and Quebec “even upward of 30 miles from any house or clearing.” This is possible, but might more likely reflect a misunderstanding of the Quebecois idiom *chat sauvage*, or “wild cat,” most often used to mean “raccoon.”

Forbush and fellow ornithologists G. K. Noble and Howard H. Cleaves in 1913-1914 failed to identify the behavior of herring gulls and black-backed gulls when they discovered the dismembered remains of hundreds of thousands of roseate terns on Muskeget Island, off Nantucket. Egg hunting in the 17th and 18th centuries, followed by plume hunting in the mid-19th century, had pushed roseate terns to the brink of extinction, but after a brief recovery in the early 20th century, their numbers again crashed.

“There are no trees on the island,” Forbush wrote, “therefore hawks and owls do not nest there, and do not remain there during the nesting season of the birds. There are no predatory mammals except the cat, and the indigenous short-eared owl was exterminated years ago. Therefore the cat is practically the only enemy with which the gulls and terns have to contend.” That the gulls were killing the terns was belatedly recognized about 80 years later, by which time roseate terns were again almost lost. Both lethal and non-lethal gull control were introduced to nearby islands in 1998. Non-lethal gull control was extended to Muskeget in 2000. The roseate tern population doubled in the next five years, and is now higher than at any time since 1920.

“It is undeniable that the cat may be affected by certain diseases and that it may transmit some infections, such as scarlet fever or smallpox,” Forbush continued. “But in the nature of the case much of the evidence is not such as would convince the bacteriologist,” meaning that it was not really plausible even given the limited understanding of disease transmission of that era. “Nevertheless,” Forbush labored on, “it will be conceded that as a carrier of disease, especially to children, no animal has greater opportunities.”

His evidence consisted entirely of two articles by one Dr. Caroline A. Osborne, who seems to have left little other trace of herself in medical history. Osborne accused cats of infecting humans with bubonic plague, whooping cough, mumps, and foot-and-mouth disease, of which only bubonic plague even afflicts cats. Cats contract bubonic plague in the same manner as humans, from *yersina pestis* bacteria carried by a flea whose natural hosts are rodents.

Forbush favored tracking and treeing cats with dogs before shooting them. The University of Nebraska writers recommended against using dogs. Otherwise, their instructions for killing cats were essentially identical.

Forbush sought “to eliminate the vagrant or feral cat as we would a wolf.” By coincidence *Feral Cats & Their Management* co-author Scott E. Hygnstrom was thanked for advice by the editors of at least two recent texts describing wolf control methods.

—Merritt Clifton

Ask the Animals: A vet’s-eye view of pets and the people they love by Bruce R. Coston, DVM

Thomas Dunne Books (175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010), 2010. 274 pages, paperback. \$14.99.



I like books that start with a bark and don’t stop yapping until I’m done. *Ask the Animals* isn’t one of them. Having spent the past 20 years volunteering in animal shelters, including shelter clinics, I have an idea how brisk and lively a vet’s office can be—but I read nearly 50 pages of *Ask the Animals* before Coston moved past his personal life to introduce an animal who was not his own. This was a dog named Tess who was referred to his teaching hospital for a further evaluation of a complex medical problem.

The animal cases that Coston describes are interesting. For instance, a woman who was boiling eggs called him in the mistaken belief that there was a living chick in one of the eggs.

Parts of the book recall the frequent frustration of animal advocates with the slow evolution of veterinary perspectives. Coston—who graduated from the University of

Minnesota veterinary school in 1987—was initially adamantly opposed to castrating male dogs. He refused to have his dog neutered even though the dog wandered and inappropriately marked territory.

He does now see that male dogs and cats have no untoward effects from castration.

Later, after Coston took a position in upstate New York, he and his wife moved into an apartment house whose manager prohibited dogs. The Costons therefore took a free-to-good-home kitten from a person whom Coston describes as a “careless breeder.” I preach the spay/neuter mantra as a long-term shelter volunteer. I expect others in animal care—especially vets—to do the same. Coston did not.

The back cover of *Ask the Animals* bills the book as having been written “in the tradition of James Herriot.” I’m sorry but I simply cannot agree. —Debra J. White

Saving Cinnamon: The Amazing True Story of a Missing Military Puppy And the Desperate Mission to Bring Her Home by Christine Sullivan

St. Martin’s Press (175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010), 2010. 256 pages, paperback. \$14.95.

Mark Feffer, a U.S. soldier then serving in Kandahar, Afghanistan, in December 2005 befriended a stray puppy he named Cinnamon. Adopting Cinnamon was against military regulations, but Cinnamon quickly became a base mascot anyhow. When Feffer and other members of his unit were due to be rotated back to the U.S., Feffer and his wife Alice arranged for a civilian dog handler who was employed by the U.S. military to escort Cinnamon to Chicago via Bishkek, the capital of Kyrgyzstan, a former Soviet Republic that borders Afghanistan.

Due to arrive in Chicago on June 9, 2006, Cinnamon instead disappeared. Calls and e-mails suggested that the dog handler, who was temporarily unreachable, left Cinnamon at the Bishkek airport. *Saving Cinnamon* author Christine Sullivan, who is Feffer’s sister, writes that the handler became enraged at Cinnamon. Adam Silverman of *USA Today* and Kyra Kirkwood of *Dog’s Life*, who

wrote about the incident in 2008, reported that the handler was simply unable to make flight arrangements to get Cinnamon beyond Bishkek.

A Turkish airline staff member found a foster home for Cinnamon with a local airline employee, but Cinnamon was eventually found—starving—on a farm where she had killed three chickens. She was reclaimed for the price of the chickens. The Feffers recovered Cinnamon, Sullivan recounts, after the World Society for the Protection of Animals introduced her to Kyrgyz Animal Welfare Society founder Yulia Ten. Her indefatigable efforts to trace Cinnamon’s whereabouts were instrumental.

Saving Cinnamon introduces many other heroes, including soldiers who sometimes risk their lives to save dogs and cats like Cinnamon, and friends, family, and rescue links around the world.

Saving Cinnamon is an expansion of *44 Days Out of Kandahar*, now out of print, which Sullivan self-published in 2008

under the imprint of New Hope for Animals.

—Debra J. White

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OBITUARIES

“I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him. The evil that men do lives after them. The good is oft interred with their bones.” —William Shakespeare

Patricia Simonet, 51, died of cancer on December 2, 2010. Earning a Ph.D. in animal behavior at the University of Nevada, Simonet from 1992 to 2000 researched topics including what children learn from live animal shows, chimpanzee play, and elephant self-recognition in mirrors. Then, recalled Robert Brost, her husband of 26 years, “While researching the meaning of sounds that dogs make, she discovered dog laughter,” the happy panting that characterizes dogs at play. Hired by Spokane County Regional Animal Protection Services in 2003 to do temperament testing and training, Simonet in 2005 demonstrated that playing recorded dog laughter in the shelter helped to calm the dogs and increased the adoption rate of adoptions. Brost and Simonet subsequently marketed dog laughter recordings, which are typically played at less than the threshold of human hearing. “While Trisha worked for SCRAPS, she also volunteered at the Spokane Humane Society,” Brost said, “training their volunteers and serving on their board of directors.” The Spokane County Board of Supervisors in June 2010 designated an off-leash area at Gateway Regional Park the Patricia Simonet Laughing Dog Park.

John Gleiber, associated with the Animal Welfare Institute since 1958, recently died. Gleiber was for 26 years secretary of the Society for Animal Protective Legislation, an AWI affiliate. After SAPL was merged into AWI in 2003, Gleiber served for the rest of his life on the AWI board of directors.

Tom Blomquist, 60, died on December 3, 2010 in Reno, Nevada, after a three-year struggle with brain cancer. Born in Wichita, Kansas, Blomquist lived in California before moving to Lyon County, Nevada, in 1992. “At that time,” recalled Sally Roberts of the *Nevada Appeal*, “the county animal shelter was not enforcing the law that animals older than four months had to be spayed or neutered before being adopted from the shelter. Largely through Blomquist’s efforts, county officials changed the management of the shelter and created a shelter oversight committee.” Blomquist and his former wife, a vet tech, also cofounded the Silver Springs Spay & Neuter Project.

Garry Gross, 73, died of a heart attack on November 30, 2010 at his home in Greenwich Village, New York. A dog trainer and photographer since 2002, Gross was best known for the nude photos he took of actress Brooke Shields, then 10 years old, in 1975. Shields at age 17 sued Gross for continuing to sell the photos, but the New York Court of Appeals upheld the contract Gross had negotiated with her mother.

Jean Blancou, 74, director general of the World Organization for Animal Health 1991-2000, died in Paris on November 10, 2010. Becoming a veterinarian in 1960, Blancou led veterinary aid missions to Ethiopia, Niger, Madagascar, and Senegal, then served 13 years as deputy director and director of the National Centre for Research on Rabies & Wildlife Diseases in Nancy, France. From 1988 until 1990 Blancou also headed the Animal Health & Protection Department of the National Centre for Veterinary & Food Studies in Maisons-Alfort, France. Recalled ProMed infectious diseases moderator Arnon Shimshony, “Jean was a devoted scholar of the history of veterinary medicine and the history of animal diseases, zoonoses and animal welfare. He was president of the French Society for the History of Veterinary Medicine & Sciences,” and authored a book, *History of the surveillance & control of transmissible animal diseases*, published in 2000.

Stephanie James, 33, a Knoxville Zoo elephant keeper, was killed on January 14, 2011 when a 26-year-old African elephant named Edie pushed her into a stall. Zoo spokesperson Tina Rolan called it an accident resulting from working “in close proximity to such a large animal.” Formerly an animal care specialist at Sea World Orlando, James also volunteered for a dog therapy program. “The zoo immediately changed how its other four elephant keepers care for Edie and its other female elephant, Jana, 30,” reported Amy McRary of the *Knoxville News Sentinel*. “Both will be managed in ‘protected contact,’ with keepers tending to the animals through protective barriers such as bars. Before, keepers cared for Jana and Edie in ‘free contact’ without such barriers. Keepers already work with the male elephant, Tonka, in protected contact.” Introduced by the Oakland Zoo after 25-year elephant keeper Loren Jackson was killed in 1991 while shoveling manure, protected contract has gradually become the norm in zoo elephant keeping worldwide.

William Daniel Sudia, 88, died on December 25, 2010 in Decatur, Georgia. After working in malaria and mosquito control for the U.S. Army, Sudia in 1951 became one of the first entomologists hired by the Virus-Vector Unit of the Centers for Disease Control. Sudia in 1971 identified horses rather than birds or rodents as the hosts for the mosquitoes who transmit the disease now known as Venezuelan equine encephalitis. Retiring in 1984, Sudia became known for his bird photography.

Kevin Reynolds, 52, of Brighton, England, died on January 8, 2011 after apparently hitting his head and suffering shock and hypothermia while trying to rescue his two Jack Russell terriers from heavy seas, one of whom was later found alive. Reynolds’ 13-year-old daughter entered the water to try to save him, but witnesses pulled her to safety.

Frank “Poncho” Kruse, 62, of East Bexar County, Texas, escaped from a 3:30 a.m. trailer home fire with his wife and adult niece on December 25, 2010, but returned inside to try to rescue their two dogs. Kruse and both dogs were killed.

Ilene Moore, 63, an office volunteer for the Michigan Humane Society since 2002, and a volunteer special events organizer for the Detroit Zoo, also since 2002, was found dead of what police termed “blunt and sharp trauma” on December 9, 2010 at Kensington Metropark. Her brother Marc Rosenthal, 59, of Novi, Michigan, was arraigned on December 11 for alleged first degree premeditated murder. Police said Moore was killed after arguing with Rosenthal about a financial matter.

Kathryn Cabral, 56, of Warren, Rhode Island, drowned circa December 12, 2010 in her submerged car off Route 24 near Portsmouth. A former veterinary technician and horse trainer, she later volunteered for the North Providence Animal Shelter.

Dawn Sylvia-Stasiewicz, 52, died on January 12, 2011 of respiratory failure. Sylvia-Stasiewicz, of Hume, Virginia, trained dogs for the late U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy, of Massachusetts, and former U.S. Senator Chuck Hagel, of Nebraska. At request of the Kennedy family Sylvia-Stasiewicz evaluated and trained a Portuguese water dog, Bo, who in April 2009 was presented to U.S. President Barack Obama’s daughters. Sylvia-Stasiewicz in 2010 published a book, *The Love That Dog Training Program*, co-authored by Larry Kay of Los Angeles.

ANIMAL OBITUARIES

Old Man, 32, a naked mole rat born in Kenya, died on Thanksgiving morning 2010 at the Barshop Institute for Longevity & Aging Studies on the Texas Research Park campus near San Antonio. Old Man was the senior member of the University of Texas Health Science Center’s colony of about 2,000 naked mole rats. Captured with 75 kin in a sweet potato field in 1980 by physiologist Rochelle Buffenstein, Old Man traveled with Buffenstein to the University of Cape Town in South Africa, then to the City College of New York in Harlem, arriving in San Antonio in 2007. Naked mole rats, who live to an average age of 26, “in many ways confound what scientists think they know about how diseases progress and why living things age,” Buffenstein told Richard A. Marini of the *San Antonio Express News*. For example, naked mole rats rarely develop cancer, and although they develop the same type of brain plaque found in Alzheimer’s disease victims, they do not suffer similar cognitive decline.

Na’au, 5, a California sea lion who stranded herself three times in 2010, was euthanized on December 7, 2010 at the Marine Mammal Center in Sausalito due to brain deterioration caused by chronic domoic acid poisoning. The condition results from eating fish who have been poisoned by red tides. Of 614 sea lions treated at the Marine Mammal Center in 2010, 50 suffered from chronic domoic acid poisoning, spokesperson Jim Oswald told media. This was down

from 2009, when the center treated about 900 sea lions, about 20% of them for chronic domoic acid poisoning. Na’au was picked up first near Santa Cruz in May 2010, distraught after the death of a pup. Nursed back to health, she was returned to the sea, but in July resurfaced at the Santa Cruz wharf and beach, pursuing humans and fighting with dogs. Treated and released at Point Reyes National Seashore, Na’au in December turned up at Knightsen Elementary School, in Oakley, far inland, more than a mile from an irrigation canal which apparently provided her route into the Sacramento Delta.

Splash, 13, longtime Portuguese water dog companion of the late U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy and his wife Vicki, died in December 2010. After growling at Senators Paul Wellstone and Joe Biden (now vice president) when they talked out of turn at a Senate Democratic caucus meeting, Splash was made an honorary member of the caucus by Maryland Senator Paul Sarbanes. Credited as author of a children’s book, *My Senator and Me: A Dog's-Eye View Of Washington, D.C.*, Splash reportedly inspired the Kennedy family to give U.S. President Barack Obama’s daughters a Portuguese water dog in 2009.

Rebecca, 50, matriarch of the Asian elephants at the Performing Animal Welfare Society’s ARK 2000 sanctuary in Calaveras, California, died on December 8, 2010. Rebecca came to PAWS in 2001.

Alleged would-be Tucson assassin was ex-animal control dog-walking volunteer

TUCSON—Charged with fatally shooting six people and wounding eight in a January 8, 2011 attempt to assassinate U.S. Representative Gabrielle Giffords outside a Tucson supermarket, Jared L. Loughner reportedly alienated the last of his few friends in March 2010, after he was dismissed as a dog-walking volunteer by the Pima Animal Care Center.

Serge Kovaleski, Marc Lacey, and Timothy Williams of the *New York Times* wrote that Loughner walked dogs in January and February 2010, “but after about two months,” according to Pima Animal Care Center manager Kim Janes, “even though Loughner had been told not to walk any dogs in an area of the kennel where parvovirus had been detected, he did not appear to appreciate the seriousness of the situation.”

Said Janes, “He did not seem to understand why this was important and how deadly the virus could be for dogs. He never really acknowledged our concerns. We were concerned about him not following the rules

that the supervisor had passed on to him, and we told him not to return until he was willing to abide by our rules.”

Representative Giffords, shot through the head at close range, had improved from critical to stable condition as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press. Giffords “had a decent record on animal protection issues, and cosponsored a number of bills on topics such as fur labeling, crush videos, chimp use in research, horse transportation, laboratory animal dealers, and military working dogs,” Humane Legislative Fund president Mike Markarian told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Giffords was honored in 2005 by the Grand Canyon chapter of the Sierra Club for her contributions to habitat protection.

Christina Green, 9, the youngest person killed during the assassination attempt, was reportedly an animal lover who planned to pursue a career in public service.

U.S. District Judge John Roll, fatally shot as he stood alongside Gifford, in March 2009 rejected arguments by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service that a recovery plan need not be prepared and critical habitat need not be designated for jaguars, after the last known wild jaguar in the U.S. was captured a month earlier, recaptured, and finally euthanized on March 2, 2009 due to advanced kidney disease. Biologist Emil McCain in May 2010 pleaded guilty to illegally trapping and radio collaring the jaguar. The Fish & Wildlife Service disciplined at least two other employees in connection with the incident. The last two jaguars known to be in the U.S. before that one were killed in radio collaring mishaps in 2002 and 2003.

MEMORIALS

Que, merry Christmas. You are very missed, and I will never forget you. —Hilde Wilson, & Que Number Two

In memory of an injured kitten I found in the Jerusalem souk and could not help. —Alice Holzman

In memory of my mother, Audrey Wright Anderson. —Marina Drake



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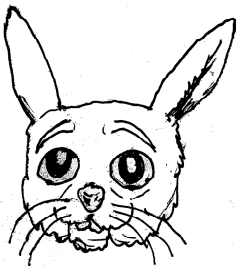
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